Hafa Adai!

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Japanese tourist remains missing. PAGE 2
Wilshire eyes broad plan to meet the Fund's challenges. PAGE 3

Only 2 days of work next week

» Citizenship Day declared as another 'paid' holiday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Thousands of government employees will work for only two days next week because of the delegate election on Tuesday, Citizenship Day on Thursday, and "austerity Friday."

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued a memo yesterday to clarify the two-day workweek because of the two holidays and the first austerity Friday for the Executive Branch in fiscal year 2011. The governor issued a separate memo declaring Citizenship Day on Nov. 4 a "paid holiday."

"I take this step to ease the financial impact on our employees and their families as a result of having both the Election Day and Citizenship Day holidays in the same week," Fitial said.

He said government employees who are not scheduled to work on Citizenship Day shall be paid, charging available annual leave hours for this holiday.

"Government employees who are scheduled to work on this holiday shall

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:
Do you plan to avail of the early voting process for the Nov. 2 delegate election?
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Twin Disasters
Along with the 33 people killed by a volcano that erupted Tuesday more than 800 miles to the east in central Java, the number of dead from the twin disasters has now topped 400.

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New Website
The Philippine Consulate General Office on Saipan is keeping with the technology-driven times with an official website that can now be accessed by the public.

Maharlika...Page 12

Trick or Treat
The spookiest time of the year is upon us and everybody on the island is on a trick-or-treating mode this weekend.

Life & Style...page 20

Malae takes over as new CUC chief

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Abe Utu Malae was appointed yesterday as the new executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., a position left vacant by Tony Muña.

Malae

"I am very pleased with the selection process that resulted in the determination of the top 2 candidates. …In an effort to move CUC ahead in its progress to meet the highest quality standards…I hereby select Mr. Abe Malae as executive director for CUC," said Gov. Benigno R. Fi-

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SUPERHEROES AT MHS
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Superheroes and horror movie characters, who are members of Marianas High School's Refaluwasch Carolinian Club, join forces as they perform dance numbers for an enthusiastic crowd in yesterday afternoon's MHS Octoberfest Carnival. Students and teachers in Halloween costumes roaming around, freshmen to senior students performing song and dance numbers, games, and food and drinks were common scene at the three-hour MHS event.

DUE TO INSUFFICIENT OPERATIONS BUDGET

Superior Court sets closure and partial closure

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has set a schedule of closure and partial closure of court operations on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota due to not enough resources.

In a notice to lawyers in the CNMI, Naraja said the CNMI government's budget for the current fiscal year is not enough to meet personnel and operations costs.

The court must therefore continue

See COURT on Page 4

'Votes of early voting violators still valid'

> *These voters cannot be preemptively found guilty of perjury. Each voter who registers to vote early is attesting that on a future date [Nov. 2] they will be unavailable.*
>
> —Assistant attorney general Meaghan Hassel-Shearer

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

3 days before delegate election

The votes of those found violating the early voting rules of the CNMI election law will still be counted, according to Commission on Election legal counsel and assistant attorney general Meaghan Hassel-Shearer.

In her response yesterday to a complaint filed by Democratic Party candidate Jesus Borja on Thursday, Hassel-Shearer said these voters cannot be found guilty of perjury ahead of the Nov. 2 election.

"While the CEC agrees with you that there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of early voters, these voters cannot be preemptively found guilty of perjury. Each voter who registers to vote early is attesting that on a future date [Nov. 2] they will be unavailable," Hassel-Shearer told

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Local

Japanese tourist remains missing

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Search and rescue teams failed yesterday to locate Masaaki Isobe, a 24-year-old Japanese tourist who was reported missing at Tank Beach in Kagman since Wednesday noon and is feared dead.

Search and rescue operations are expected to resume this morning until noon.

Strong currents and a tiger shark spotted in the area where the victim disappeared hampered yesterday's search.

Police spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that both local and federal search teams held aerial, cliff line, and underwater searches.

"They have not found anything yet," he said.

Blas said the dive search lasted just an hour or so because of the strong undercurrents.

"They were diving by the reef line. They actually searched within that location, but they could not continue any longer because of the water condition," he said.

Blas said the dive team also spotted a tiger shark in the vicinity so the divers took precautionary measures while diving.

Teams from DPS Boating Safety Section, DPS Fire Division's Search and Rescue Unit, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Emergency Management Office, and the U.S. Coast Guard participated in yesterday's search.

In a statement yesterday, the U.S. Coast Guard said that search and rescue case coordinators at Sector Guam immediately contacted Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 to help in the search after being notified of the incident on Wednesday.

The Coast Guard cutter *Washington*, a 110-foot patrol boat homeported in Apra Harbor, Guam, was diverted to the scene and arrived overnight to deploy a Self-Locating Datum Marker Buoy to track sea conditions at the scene in the hopes of establishing a more accurate search area.

HSC-25 and CGC Washington conducted a first light search on the morning of Oct. 28, searching throughout the day. *Washington* remained on scene on Oct. 29 to continue the search.

Preliminary investigation showed that Isobe was with a group of tourists that went to Tank Beach at 11am Wednesday. After snorkeling in the lagoon for about 30 minutes, the tourists headed back to shore.

They then noticed that Isobe was not with the group so they began searching for him. They later spotted him by the reef line where he was shouting for help. The group attempted to rescue him, but failed to reach his location due to large waves and strong current.

DPS received the report about the incident at 12:48pm that day.

The Coast Guard emphasizes the use of proper safety gear in the water at all times and urges the public to report marine emergencies to the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center at (671) 564-USCG.

Fitial names acting Finance chief

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial named Connie Agulto acting Finance secretary, to temporarily replace Robert "Bob" Schrack, who retired after 16 years with the CNMI Department of Finance.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said Agulto will serve as acting Finance secretary "until such time that the administration identifies its nominee for the post."

Capital Hill sources said among the individuals considered for the post is former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Tony Muña, who also served as the governor's special assistant for management and budget.

Demapan said Schrack's retirement date is Sunday, Oct. 31. But Schrack's last day of work was yesterday.

Schrack told *Saipan Tribune* that he will remain in the CNMI when he retires.

Fitial also named on Thursday Abe Malae as the new CUC executive director. But the governor has yet to name a replacement for former Commerce secretary after Michael Ada and former CNMI lead for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program.

Demapan said Sixto Igisomar continues to serve as acting Commerce secretary until further notice. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Rape charges vs parolee dismissed

The Superior Court on Thursday dismissed the rape charges against a parolee after further investigation conducted by the police showed that his minor former girlfriend had consented and even agreed to a threesome.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo dismissed the charges against 24-year-old Benson Dela Cruz after the Office of the Attorney General informed the court that it has no intention to prosecute the matter.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher stated in his affidavit that subsequent to Dela Cruz's arrest last Oct. 20, police officers conducted their investigation that included additional witness interviews.

"As a result of these further investigations, it is now clear that the Commonwealth will not be able to prove this case beyond a reasonable doubt. In fact, it is doubtful that a crime was committed," Gallagher said.

The prosecutor specifically stated that the complaining witness has admitted that she fabricated her story.

The girl apparently stated that she wanted Dela Cruz to be jailed so that he would stop bothering her.

Police said during further interview, the girl admitted to have had sex with Dela Cruz in the presence of their male friend.

At that time, the friend didn't have sex with the girl because he was too drunk.

Police said the male friend during interview admitted that they had a threesome, but that he stopped because he was not comfortable.

Police said the friend also admitted that the following day he had sex with the girl at his house in San Vicente.

Dela Cruz was arrested on allegations he forced the girl to drink alcoholic beverages and raped her at a farm area on Capital Hill last Oct. 16. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man directed to answer charges of 'ice' and marijuana possession

Probable cause was found yesterday to warrant the filing of charges against a man who was arrested Wednesday with three suspected suppliers of "ice" on Saipan.

At the preliminary hearing, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo determined that Wilson George Satoshi may have committed two counts of possession of a controlled substance.

The 42-year-old Satoshi was directed to answer the charges at his arraignment on Nov. 8.

Chief prosecutor Michael Ernest called to the witness stand former police detective Jesse Dubrall, who narrated how they allegedly recovered "ice" and marijuana in Satoshi's vehicle.

Police said that Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives were conducting a briefing on Wednesday afternoon on how to serve the arrest warrant and to search the car suspected of being used in narcotics activities when Satoshi was arrested after "ice" and marijuana were found inside his car.

That same day, CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force served arrest warrants on suspected "ice" dealers Mendel Jeffrey Techur, Anthony Villanueva, and Karlene Reyes Lizama. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Wilshire eyes broad plan to meet the Fund's challenges

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The new investment consultant for the NMI Retirement Fund said a comprehensive plan must be devised in order to meet the challenges of the Commonwealth's pension program.

Wilshire Associates said a plan must be developed to solve the Fund's underfunded status and weather the difficult securities market and current limited resources for employer contribution.

"We recognize that the next few years will be critical for the Fund and we hope to provide the board of trustees with the necessary analysis and recommendations to achieve those goals. It is no secret that the Fund is facing tremendous challenges," said Wilshire managing director and principal Howard Yata during a presentation to the board of trustees Wednesday night.

Yata, along with managing directors and principals Maggie Ralbovsky and Stephen Marshall, met with the trustees during the two-day presentation.

"We've accepted this assignment because we feel we can work with the trustees and the Fund to map out the appropriate steps toward the most successful outcome," said Yata.

It was learned that once the board approves a new asset allocation policy, Wilshire will coordinate an RFP process and evaluate RFP responses to arrive at number of finalist candidates for each of the search categories.

The Fund earlier held off the hiring of new money managers until a new investment consultant is named to make the recommendation.

Yata said they will participate with the trustees in interviewing the finalists and facilitate discussions to select successful bidders. It will also help negotiate contracts with the new money managers and will revise the Fund's investment policy statement to reflect the changes.

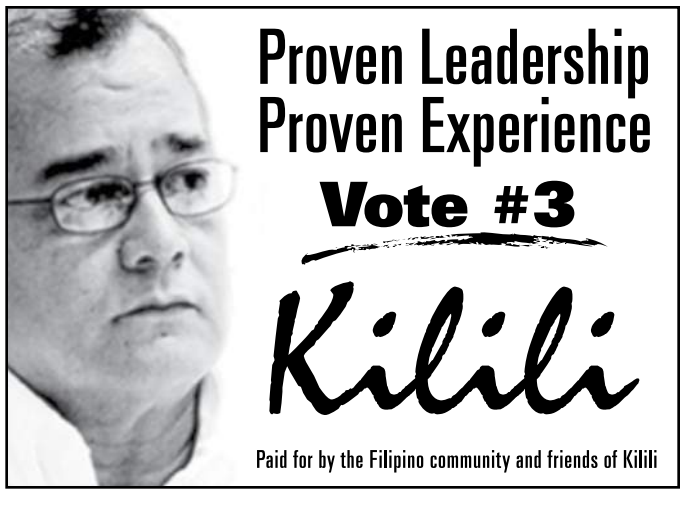
On an ongoing basis, Yata said the Fund will be provided with monthly performance reports and quarterly performance analysis and will assist in evaluation of custody contract and make recommendations if changes are deemed necessary.

"We will also provide periodic updates on market environment, and whether changes to the asset allocation or investment managers may be considered," he added.

According to Ralbovsky, diversification is key under current market environments.

"The market environment has changed so drastically and people have come to the conclusion that that further diversification would really help them manage the risk. We have to create more return for every unit of risk… and I think people have to diversify them into smaller assets such as real state and emerging markets," she said during the presentation.

Historically, Ralbovsky said, most pension funds have been concentrating traditional asset allocations on stocks and bonds.



Greetings…

Two years ago I promised to represent you in the U.S. Congress with honor, always keeping in mind the great needs of today, never forgetting our vision for the future of the Northern Mariana Islands.

We have accomplished so much in just a short time. Now the challenge is to continue that progress, building on our experience, the trust we have earned, and the friendships established in our Nation's capitol.

I renew my promise to you…

Every day I will work to my utmost to make life better for you, your family, and our Commonwealth.

Thank you for your continued support. Thank you for your vote on November 2. I am #3 on the ballot.

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
#3 on the ballot

Paid for by Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Accomplished in just two years ☑

Helping our economy through these tough times:

- ☑ Recovery Act: $100m+ awarded in NMI so far
- ☑ 375 jobs created or preserved
- ☑ $8.3m emergency funds to cover PSS October payroll
- ☑ Immigration transition: kept visa waiver program for Russian and Chinese tourists: $58m to our economy
- ☑ MVA seat on National Travel and Tourism Board
- ☑ $13m in credit for small business start-ups

Improving health care:

- ☑ Health care reform has major benefits for NMI:
  - Medicaid triples: $158m over ten years
  - Consumer protections: no lifetime limit or loss of coverage when ill, same rates for women and men, children covered up to age 26
  - $1m to police unreasonable insurance rates
  - at Governor's option: health insurance premium subsidies for low-income families
- ☑ For our Man'amko
  - $250 to help with expenses in 2010
  - 50% discount on brand name drugs starts in 2011
  - Free preventive care for low-income seniors
- ☑ $1.5m Medicaid boost in FY09 and FY10
- ☑ $768,000 Medicaid bridge funding for ½ of FY11
- ☑ Children's Health Insurance doubled to $1.2m
- ☑ Tinian Health Center: $380,000
- ☑ Saipan Health Center planning grant: $80,000
- ☑ Recovery Act funding for medical referrals

Helping those most in need:

- ☑ Food Stamp annual increase: $2m
- ☑ Legal Services funding: $180,000
- ☑ Making Work Pay tax credit: up to $400 for individual, $800 for couple ($11m to NMI)
- ☑ $250 payment for 2,570 seniors & disabled in NMI

Building infrastructure:

- ☑ Clean Water Fund upped to $5.2m for FY10
- ☑ Safe Drinking Water Fund upped to $6.1m for FY10
- ☑ $4.8 million reprogrammed for drinking water
- ☑ Recovery Act sewer/water funding: $3.5m
- ☑ Recovery Act Energy funds $30m for home weatherization, CUC efficiencies, reducing dependence on foreign oil
- ☑ $200,000 earmark for Garapan Public Market

Investing in education:

- ☑ Recovery Act: $40m for PSS
- ☑ Recovery Act: $4m for NMC
- ☑ Pell grants rise: up to $5,550 per year; 980 NMI students now qualify
- ☑ NMC College Access Grant: $7.5m
- ☑ US Military academy slots doubled
- ☑ Refaluwasch, Chamorro language: $250,000
- ☑ Northern Marianas Trade Institute: $200,000
- ☑ Library of Congress surplus books project brings 10,000 books to NMI school and public libraries
- ☑ $100,000 earmark for school textbooks
- ☑ $200,000 earmark for Joeten-Kiyu Library repair
- ☑ Brought Education Secretary Arne Duncan's "Listening and Learning" tour to NMI

Restoring pride in the NMI:

- ☑ NMI educator nominated, chosen by President Obama for Asian American Pacific Islander Commission
- ☑ H. Con. Res. 199 passes honoring Echo Company
- ☑ H. Res. 1027 passes — 50th Anniversary of Trieste dive in the Marianas Trench
- ☑ Active membership in Congressional Asian American Pacific Islander, Hispanic caucuses
- ☑ CNMI seal added to the ceiling of the House Chamber in US Capitol
- ☑ Floor statements honoring the Ret. Reverend Bishop Tomas Camacho, Manta Rays Concert Band, the late Francisco Ada, the late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, Pale Antonelli, Angel Ray Tudela Guerrero, Beautify! CNMI and Friends of the Monument, and other NMI notables
- ☑ H.R. 934, restoring submerged lands to NMI, passes House unanimously

Protecting our island environment:

- ☑ H.R. 3511 — Marianas Trench Marine National Monument Visitor Center
- ☑ H.R. 4686 — Rota National Park feasibility study
- ☑ Recovery Act: $2.9 m for Laolao Bay coral reef
- ☑ Kagman Watershed funding: $4.15m irrigates farms, protects coral from run-off
- ☑ $220,000 earmark for marine education

Keeping you informed:

- ☑ Regular Town Hall meetings
- ☑ Weekly e-kilili newsletter
- ☑ District offices/staff on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian
- ☑ Website: www.sablan.house.gov
- ☑ Facebook and YouTube pages

…Because Kilili works for you!

Gross revenue tax payments every month pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Businesses may have to pay their gross revenue tax on a monthly basis instead of the current quarterly schedule if a Senate bill is signed into law, but the Department of Finance and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce said this proposal needs thorough review and may result in additional cost to businesses.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) said requiring monthly tax returns would spread out the revenue collections throughout the year, enabling the Department of Finance to easily forecast its revenues and plan its expenditures.

The freshman lawmaker said requiring taxes on gross revenues to be paid one month after each month that such taxes are due would also assist Finance in satisfying all the government's biweekly and monthly obligations.

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) also brought up the issue of this revenue-generating bill during the ad hoc Senate Tax Policy and Enforcement Review Committee public hearing on Thursday.

Hofschneider asked officials at the Department of Finance and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce whether they support the proposed monthly tax payments.

Kyle Calabrese, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and then Finance secretary Robert Schrack told senators that the proposal will need further review although they said it can work out. Schrack's last day of work was on Friday because of his retirement effective Sunday.

Calabrese said it's not a bad idea, but it will entail more costs and time for businesses.

But some senators who are members of the ad hoc committee chaired by Hofschneider said businesses are already making monthly reports, and making the necessary adjustments to make pay and file tax returns on a monthly basis does not necessarily require much work.

Under Taimanao's Senate Bill 17-45, the Finance secretary will prescribe monthly rates necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of the measure.

At the public hearing, senators took turns asking Finance and Commerce officials about the current enforcement of laws related to taxes and fees, and ways to improve them.

Hofschneider said the public hearing gave the committee an overview of the challenges, including lack of enforcement personnel.

Schrack cited, for example, that there are only three enforcement personnel for the poker industry. There are currently 675 registered poker machines in the CNMI, 579 of them are on Saipan, and the rest are on Rota and Tinian.

He said while most poker establishments operate on a 24-hour basis, enforcement officers could only make inspections during office hours. Adding to the problem of manpower shortage is the 16-hour work cut per pay period that enforcement officers are subjected to.

Hofschneider announced yesterday that the next public hearing of the ad hoc committee will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 3, at 1:30pm in the Senate chamber.

He said the second public hearing will focus on collection and enforcement of fees and taxes in the CNMI, and proposed changes in fees and taxes.

Among the witnesses requested to be present are the Department of Public Safety commissioner, the secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the secretary of the Department of Public Health, the administrator of the Medical Referral Office, the director of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and the president of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) formed the task force to help strengthen the enforcement of tax and fee laws and policies, in light of the government's financial crisis.

The Senate has been proposing to increases taxes and fees to generate additional revenue for the government to help reduce the 16-hour work cut imposed on most government employees in Fiscal Year 2011.

Pacific fisheries face collapse without strategic action

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—A major study of the future of Pacific Island fisheries indicates that, without concerted strategic action now, fisheries across the region face collapse within the next 25 years. This will have severe economic consequences and will make food security impossible in a region where the population is projected to increase by 50 per cent by 2035.

The study, *The Future of Pacific Fisheries*, covers oceanic, coastal, aquaculture and freshwater fishery sectors. It was presented today for endorsement by the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. It has already been approved by members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency.

The study highlights the main threats which, if left unchecked, will become major problems affecting the entire region in years to come. There are already signs of offshore resources being overfished, with stocks of bigeye tuna being harvested at dangerous levels. Coupled with this are increasing pressures from foreign fishing fleets seeking access to the waters of Pacific Island countries and territories.

ON THE NET

The report and an eight-page summary brochure can be downloaded from SPC's Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems website:

- http://www.spc.int/fame/doc/corporate_docs/Future_of_PI_fisheries_Report.pdf
- http://www.spc.int/fame/doc/corporate_docs/Future_of_PI_fisheries_Brochure.pdf.

According to the study, some coastal fisheries are already overexploited and aquaculture is suffering from a lack of competitiveness, skills, market access and incentives—more than 95 percent of production is concentrated in just two territories.

The study makes it clear that fisheries agencies at national and regional level need to adapt in the face of the growing complexity of fisheries management. They currently lack the skills and organization to coordinate policy and ensure the development of sustainable fisheries to feed and support future generations.

After identifying both threats and opportunities, the study presents scenarios for the future and identifies seven key objectives for Pacific fisheries:

- reform and build fisheries agencies for better services;
- maximize long-term national benefits from offshore resources;
- sustain coastal communities;
- feed our growing populations;
- support private sector winners;
- provide committed support from the top (leadership); and
- measure and monitor changes.

Among various opportunities highlighted by the study is the scope to increase economic benefits to countries and territories by increasing the share of the tuna catch taken by local and locally based vessels and processing the fish within the region.

Dr Jimmie Rodgers, SPC director general, said: "It is essential that we have strong political commitment to redress the problems detailed in the report. We need regional solidarity among countries and territories to mitigate the risks and to take advantage of the opportunities." ***(SPC)***

VOTES

From Page 1

Borja yesterday.

The Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Public Auditor have promised to conduct an investigation on Borja's claim of early voting irregularities after the Nov. 2 polls.

Hassel-Shearer said it is for the OAG and the OPA to investigate the matter after Nov. 2 to see if those who voted early lied about being unable to vote on Election Day.

"If a voter is found guilty at a later date of perjury, this does not void their vote. Under 1 CMC 6601(a)(3) illegal votes are any votes cast by a person who is not qualified to vote because of failure to meet age, domiciliary or residency requirements or has cast more than one ballot in the same election," she said.

She explained that citizens have a fundamental right to vote and therefore even if a voter committed perjury in order to vote early, that ballot cannot be voided as their vote would not constitute an illegal vote under the law.

As in past years with emergency ballot requests, Hassel-Shearer said the commission asks potential early voters to fill out a form stating their reason for voting early. After stating their reason for voting early, the individual must sign under penalty of perjury that not only do they meet one of the requirements but that requirement will keep them from the polling place on Nov. 2 from 7am until 7pm.

An individual found to have committed perjury may be subject to fines of up to $5,000 and imprisonment for up to five years.

Public Law 17-16 states that a voter may vote early if he or she meets any of six requirements: the conduct of business; necessity of travel; serving in the military; medical treatment; government representation; and accompanying a member of the household who is engaged in any activity listed above.

Since the start of early voting on Oct. 22, the commission has already recorded over 1,300 voters on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Registered voters in the Commonwealth total 16,574, including 998 absentee voters.

COURT

From Page 1

to maintain strict controls of expenditures to maximize its limited resources, Naraja said.

"In this regard, the CNMI Judicial Council recently adopted measures to implement austerity days for work hours of its personnel as well as hours of operation," he said.

In addition, he said, the filling of eight Superior Court vacancies will remain suspended until further notice.

On Saipan, the Superior Court will be partially closed on Friday, Nov. 12, 2010, and every other Friday after that until Dec. 31, 2010. Starting Jan. 1, 2011, Saipan court operations will be partially closed every Friday.

"Essential services will be provided and minimal staff will be designated to address docket requirements on austerity Fridays," Naraja said.

On Tinian, the court will be closed on Monday, Nov. 8, 2010, and every other Monday thereafter until Dec. 31. Starting Jan. 1, 2011, the court will be closed every Monday.

On Rota, the court will be closed on Monday, Nov. 8, 2010, and every other Monday thereafter until Dec. 31, 2010.

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, Rota court operations will be closed every Monday. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MALAE

From Page 1

tial in his appointment letter.

Malae said yesterday he is honored to earn the governor and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's trust and will not disappoint them.

Malae, who was the assistant executive director for operation prior to his new appointment, was one of the top 2 candidates for the post. He was selected by the governor after a review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The governor's decision was announced in a letter to CUC human resources manager Frankie Cepeda on Thursday.

Saipan Tribune learned that CUC got about 30 applications for the post, both from on- and off-island. Seven were vetted for consideration by the EPA and two were short-listed and presented to the governor.

The job description of the executive director is part of the consent decree—Stipulated Order 1—between the CNMI, CUC, and the U.S. government. The deadline for submitting the employment contract to EPA was Friday, Oct. 29, 2010.

Malae said the agency's workers are without a doubt the biggest plus in the organization.

When asked about his priorities as new chief, Malae said he will continue the progress being made at CUC.

"I will do what I normally do: empower the managers and professional staff to make decisions; remove bottlenecks, [and] improve service at all levels," he said.

Muña, for his part, expressed confidence in Malae's ability to improve the utility.

"Mr. Malae would make for a good executive director. Furthermore, continuity would be preserved. CUC is finally making progress with EPA stipulated orders. Mr. Malae's experience while heading the American Samoa Power Authority has been tapped and made great contributions to the SO compliance progress," Muña told *Saipan Tribune*. "I am confident that CUC is in good hands with Mr. Malae at the helm plus having a chief financial officer of Chuck Warren's caliber is a plus-plus."

Malae received his bachelor's degrees in both chemistry and English from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. He earned his first master's degree in physical chemistry from Iowa State University's School of Science & Technology. Malae also obtained two separate master's degrees in both public works administration and civil engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania.

Malae has worked for the American Samoa government for over 25 years and served as the executive director of the American Samoa Power Authority.

He was also named one of the "Top 10 Public Works Leaders of the Year" by the American Public Works Association in 2001.

2 DAYS

From Page 1

be paid their regular pay," Fitial added.

The two-day workweek comes as Executive Branch employees, as well as other legislative employees, are already being subjected to a 16-hour cut per pay period beginning Oct. 24.

Some Capital Hill employees said they do not have a choice but to follow, even though it will be hard on their pockets come payday.

Monday will be a regular workday even if it's All Saints' Day. Those in the Executive Branch will, however, start work at 8:30am instead of 7:30am.

On Tuesday, offices will be closed for the delegate election, which is a legal holiday. Early voting, however, began on Oct. 22.

Wednesday will also be a regular workday, but again, Executive Branch offices will open an hour later than normal. Thursday is Citizenship Day.

On Friday, government offices under the Executive Branch will be closed, except for those holding critical service positions such as police officers, corrections officers, firefighters, doctors, and nurses.

The governor asked department and activity heads to ensure that their respective staff "are kept well-informed so as to avert any further confusion."

"It has been brought to my attention that there appears to be some confusion in regards to the schedule of work hours for the week of Nov. 1-5, 2010 given that there are two legal holidays and an austerity Friday," the governor said, as he listed the week's work schedule.

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Celery 89¢ LB.

Green Cabbage 79¢ LB.

Lettuce Cello 99¢ LB.

Cauliflower $1.29 LB.

Chinese Cabbage 79¢ LB.

Jumbo Carrots 89¢ LB.

Cantaloupe 89¢ LB.

Honeydew 99¢ LB.

Orange 89¢ LB.

Fuji Apple $1.59 LB.

Grapes $1.99 LB.

Saan Soju $28.00 CS.

Chum-Churum $28.00 CS.

OB Beer $16.95 CS.

Cass Beer $16.95 CS.

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Sam Da Soo Water 2 LITER

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Big Blouse NEW ARRIVAL 2 for $18.00 1 for $9.99

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Ladies Sandals NEW ARRIVAL $10.00 - $12.00

Ladies Pants NEW ARRIVAL 2 for $18.00

Ladies Dress NEW ARRIVAL $12.00 - $15.00

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Household Item at low price 99¢-$5.49

Jergens Lotion 3 FOR $7.00 10 fl.oz. $3.69 6.8 fl.oz.

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Assorted Pillow $5.00 - $8.00

Boy's T-Shirt NEW ARRIVAL 3 for $10.00

Assorted Ladies & Men's Short NEW ARRIVAL 3 for $10.00

Ladies Blouse NEW ARRIVAL 2 for $18.00 1 for $9.99

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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From self-reliance to servitude

By ED FEULNER
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

We use a variety of yardsticks to judge whether our country is on the right track. Is inflation up? Has unemployment dropped? What's the stock market doing today?

Here's another one: Are Americans, who have long prided themselves on their freedom and self-reliance, becoming more dependent on government, or less?

It's a yardstick we seldom check. But we should.

Consider health care. Before the 1960s, Americans who didn't get their insurance through work typically got it through civic organizations such as churches and social clubs. Now they're more likely to get it through government public programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The result? Greater dependence on government.

According to The Heritage Foundation's 2010 Index of Dependence on Government, Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP enrolled approximately 98.2 million individuals in 2009. That's almost a third of the population. Combined, these programs accounted for $886 billion in federal spending in 2009. That's more than double the $399.1 billion spent on these programs in 1999, just a decade before. To say that such a trajectory is unsustainable is putting it mildly.

Another example is lower-cost housing. Up until World War II, it was mutual-aid, religious and educational organizations that provided housing assistance to low-income Americans. As with health care, it was a neighbor-helping-neighbor approach. But then the federal and state governments got into the act, offering more generous assistance. Today, government provides nearly all housing assistance on offer.

Government housing assistance, in fact, is at its highest level since 1962, the first year charted by the Index. As recently as 1980, it stood just above $20 billion (in 2005 dollars). Now, however, government data shows that it tops $52 billion.

Many other areas, alas, also show increasing dependence—in welfare, education and agriculture. The overall trend line is inexorably up.

As a result, the private sector winds up being crowded out. Take the Medicare drug benefit that was added in 2003. Two-thirds of all Medicare enrollees had drug coverage from another source before the Medicare drug benefit was enacted. One study showed that the new benefit resulted in a 72 percent crowd-out of private coverage. For every seven prescriptions paid for by the government, it found, five would have otherwise been financed privately.

Worse, the number of people paying for this largesse is dwindling.

In 1962, the first year measured in the Index, the percentage of people who didn't pay federal income taxes themselves, and who were not claimed as dependents by someone who paid federal income taxes, stood at 23.7 percent. By 2000, the percentage was 34.1 percent. By 2008, 43.6 percent.

"In short," the Index notes, "the country may be rapidly approaching a point where one-half of 'taxpayers' do not pay taxes, while receiving generous federal benefits."

Talk about a perfect fiscal storm. On the one hand, more and more spending on dependence-creating programs. On the other, an ever-shrinking number of taxpayers to pay for these programs.

See SELF-RELIANCE on next page

Voting for the American commons

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's *Opinion Section*

I suggested that this Nov. 2, we go to the polls as enlightened voters.

There are other ways to go to the polls. The most obvious is to go there as a duty to fulfill an obligation in response to a favor by someone that extends benefits to our purse or employ. This, alas, has been known to happen not infrequently.

Another is to follow our sense of loyalty, from breeding or brooding. Names get longer on Election Day to remind voters of their kinship. Blood is thicker than barbecue sauce, and sturdier than a picnic table, and people bother to establish blood ties on election time even if the connection is quite a few degrees removed from recognized consanguinity.

There may not be much loyalty by common brooding since ideology is not a strong suit for voters, nor ethics and morality (though a few have been known to vote their leader's conscience and/or religious teaching), but labels do command a reflexive kind of obedience. There are those who will deliver their loyalty by membership and/or fellowship in a party. We hope that the tribal members of these outdated groupings will soon fade after a few more rainbows on the Tinian horizon.

Should one consider one's self as an enlightened voter, I would expect that a distinction is made between electing a person for a role or a function. Roles are status symbols, and we often rail at our elected officials for the dishonor they commit in the exercise of their offices. Or, they rail at someone else who may have called their behavior into account and receive it as an affront to their honor. We'll want to move a few yards away from this.

In our time, we might consider the function of the office one is electing someone to perform, and determine that the one elected understands the nature of the job.

I am indebted to the countless people who fought and established in the United States public schools and hospitals, labor unions and women's programs, research institutes and art museums, youth corps and *man'amko* centers, social welfare legislation and grants for the humanities, bike trails and pathways, care for the marginalized and minorities, and the countless dot.org that allows groups to function in order that we may have as services held and owned by citizens in common.

Conservatives take Social Security as a necessary social program, reluctantly to be funded and guarded so as not to antagonize those who pay for it but will not directly benefit from its proceeds. Then we have the liberals who grudgingly acknowledge the program as charity and bewail its treatment as an entitlement program. The social democrats of my persuasion look at it as a function of governance, an enlightened political choice that constantly need constant transformation.

Resources that are collectively owned or shared between or among members of a population are referred to as "commons," a term not generally used in American parlance. The Boston Common, a series of neighborhood parks in the City of Boston, (erroneously referred to oftentimes in the plural, *Boston Commons*), would be an example of an early American sense of "held in common," and there is a sense in which the function of the federal government is to promulgate, protect and make accessible a nation's commons without regard or distinction of race, religion and gender as provided by law.

Historically, the federal government's function protected inclusiveness as states and local governments tended to protect the rights and privileges of partisan interests. States tend to consider some more privileged than others (e.g., in the CNMI, those of NMI descent). So, the enlightened person does not make a choice for the congressional representative on who has the biggest heart closest to the ground, or the most polished intellect that can be displayed and will bring honor and respect to those s/he represents, or the stately stature fitting to be a bust on Mt. Rushmore, but rather, one who can efficiently and effectively represent our interest in a nation's shared resources "held in common." To put it crassly, in the CNMI, we want someone to bring home the bacon from Uncle Sam's pantry?

Lately, there has been some revisiting of the federal-Commonwealth government's relationship and what exactly was agreed upon in the Covenant, *An Honorable Accord* in the words of our eminent authors who are currently serving as advisers to the current CNMI administration. That writeup, BTW, was preceded by their definitive account of U.S. policy in Micronesia, in their book *National Security and Self-Determination.*

Today, self-determination needs to be understood within the possibilities and limits of homeland security. Unless I misread it wrong, the value of the Marianas to U.S. national security is its strategic military value, period. Some 4,000 survivors from WWII had a piece of real estate that the Pentagon wanted, or at least deprive others from using, so we signed our membership to the family in the interest of defense, in the language of State, and the administrative benign neglect of Interior. We already established who we are; we are just haggling for the price. That may sound cynical but it often helps to see things without use of too thick colored lenses.

Not surprisingly then, the loci of our economic life is not Joeten, the Sabalu or DFS. It is the Commissary in Lower Base, and to fully understand this takes us to the realm of *realpolitik.* To paraphrase Socrates, "voter, enlighten yourself!"

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facts or fiction on Election Day

I have been observing all the letters and news articles about the coming election for our delegate and I must say it has been interesting and entertaining. But the fact of the matter is the election for our delegate is about our entire future in Washington and I take that very seriously. Weighing my options was relatively easy because the candidates are totally different in many ways, especially in their qualifications, which is why it was so easy for me to determine that Juan N. Babauta is our better candidate to send to Washington.

I want to thank the supporters of Mr. Camacho for offering their proof that he is supported by the governor and that he can work with the governor but the fact is he won't have any help in Washington. The fiction is the idea that he can actually get something accomplished in Washington when we know the feds and politicians in both national parties don't like our present administration and the corruption that is still ongoing.

I want to thank the supporters of Mr. Borja for providing a good argument that he is a Democrat but the fact of the matter is he may as well be an Independent because he *is not* supported by the national Democratic Party. This is truly a fictional argument that voters need to be aware of because Mr. Borja, like Mr. Camacho, won't have any help in Congress.

As for our present delegate, I want to thank him and his supporters for offering their arguments that were more fictional than facts. One letter stated: *Kilili is never late.* What does tardiness have to do with turning our economy around and the many other things we need done in Washington? *Kilili does not bribe us with cases of beer***.** Every candidate in the race has provided beer at one time or another. Serving beer has nothing to do with getting things done in Washington. *Kilili lives a humble lifestyle.* So what? How does that help me? *Kilili does not suck up to Fitial.* Kilili's job was to work with the governor, not suck up. Our delegate must have the political wherewithal and diplomatic skills to work with anyone. *Kilili does not switch parties to get elected***.** Kilili has publicly stated himself as being a Democrat and Independent. Will the real Kilili please stand up? *Kilili listens to us.* If he truly listens to the people, then why didn't he hear our cry for economic reform? Where is the economic recovery money for our economy like Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands got? *Kilili brings home the bacon.* We need cash, not more food and we already know he has misrepresented himself about bringing cash to the CNMI. *Kilili is proud of his fellow islanders.* If this is true then why didn't he hire any Refalawasch and more Chamorros? His office does not represent both local CNMI cultures and he wasn't smart enough to hire at least one African-American as almost every person in Congress has an African-American on their staff. Kilili also betrayed the local people when he supported the idea that alien workers would one day be voters. There is more fiction than fact to support Kilili's re-election.

Juan N. Babauta has more than proven his abilities in Washington, which is why he served three terms. His political accomplishments are far superior to the other candidates, which range from the founding of our education system, growth in our tourist industry with China's Approved Destination status, established the free interisland calls to and from Rota and Tinian, to the founding of our present hospital as the director of Public Health and there is a whole lot more if voters will get informed as I have. He has so many accomplishments the editor won't let me list them all. Juan N. Babauta has more political, legislative and federal funding accomplishments than all the other candidates put together in his 20 years of public service. The other candidates don't even come close to comparing with Mr. Babauta's experience and accomplishments.

Based on the facts, Mr. Babauta is the best candidate for the CNMI given the many weaknesses of the other candidates that are factual. It is a fact that we can't afford to send anyone with less experience and far fewer accomplishments who won't have any official help in the Congress. Mr. Babauta has done something that has never been done before in delivering an entire party to the aid of the CNMI and voters need to take advantage of the support being offered the CNMI by the national Republican Party. We cannot afford to refuse the National GOP's help in the U. S. Congress based on the fictional arguments of the other candidates. All voters need to cast their votes based on the facts that prove Babauta is the better candidate and not the fictional hope offered by the other candidates.

Juan Jesus Agulto
Kagman, Saipan

Two voices, one people

There are only two officials in the CNMI government with the power to speak for all the people: the governor and our U. S. congressman, which speaks volumes about our delegate selection. So what does this mean? Clearly it implies that these voices can operate in unison or in conflict and I'm sure most readers will agree that working in unison is the best formula for success. We will have two voices after the delegate race and the big question is what two voices. But a bigger question is how to achieve a united people for one candidate to create the synergy for a mandate in this election.

We already know Governor Fitial will be one of the voices and our choice in choosing the other voice is just as important and even more so now. I say this because it is clear to me and many other voters that Washington is our best hope for getting the financial infusion of cash we need to get us through these hard times and to rebuild our economy. We need immediate help, the kind of help that can't wait for investors and development to create change that will take time and even years. We need the kind of help that Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands just got, $500 million. We can get the help we need from Washington with the simple signing of a document—a document that will be in the form of a CNMI economic recovery bill that must come from our next delegate to Congress.

The welfare of our economy is too important and voters must get it right this time because everything is dependent upon our economy. There is only one candidate promoting the revitalization of our economy through the U. S. Congress. There is only one candidate with the experience and wisdom of both the Governor's Office and Washington's political arena, which is the key to bringing the two voices of the CNMI together in unison to be heard and given political weight in Washington. There is only one candidate that is a member of a political team in the CNMI government and in the U.S. Congress and don't forget *politics is a true team sport*. There is only one candidate that has proven he can cross party lines and has remained professional enough to bridge the working relationship between the present administration and the federal government. We must select the best local and Washington politician.

Determining the best candidate to be the second voice for the people should be easy given the big differences in the qualifications of all the candidates. But the biggest challenge in this election is really getting the people to unite behind the one candidate who is clearly the best. Creating a majority is a critical part of the selection process because the number of votes actually dictate the expectations of voters, which holds the elected accountable. If an official is elected by a small majority, there is no definitive mandate by the people and thus no clear accountability. However, when an official is elected by a landslide, there will be a very high level of expectations for that person to deliver on his platform with the same high level of accountability. In political terms the candidate is issued a *"mandate"* when elected by a large margin. In this election we all know that the mandate we want to send to Washington is *"to fix our economy"* first and foremost. We must unite behind this one candidate for our economy.

The challenge for voters is to become one people supporting the one candidate that can best do the job with local and federal officials for the CNMI. But more importantly, we must vote with a big majority for the one candidate promoting the revitalization of our economy to give our delegate's voice equal if not more credibility and volume with the governor's to create the badly needed mandate to *fix our economy through Washington–not casinos*!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

The best choice for the job

Juan N. Babauta has been governor of the CNMI, he was the CNMI resident representative in Washington D.C., and served a number of terms as a senator in the CNMI Legislature. What can he do now for the Commonwealth as the delegate to the U.S. Congress that he could not do in his many past years in the CNMI government? Oh, and wasn't he a client of Jack Abranoff? (http://www.donyoungshistory.com/campaignfinance/abramoff.htm) Enough said.

Joe Camacho is the obvious mouthpiece of King Ben, oops, I mean Governor Fitial. Perhaps, if the governor actually spent some time governing, the CNMI would be in better shape. Camacho will ensure that U.S. citizens have preference for jobs. Isn't that a local issue that has already been addressed? Does he think he will be able to see to enforcement if he is our delegate to Congress? And hasn't Joe participated in several ethically questionable meet-and-greet activities (OAG and the Deputy Police Commissioner).

I don't know what to say about Jesse Borja. He has implied that he will somehow force the U.S. Congress and/or homeland security to implement everything? He will ensure that the U.S. does not violate the Covenant. He will ensure that we are given our fair share of all of the benefits that we are entitled to as U.S. citizens. Exactly what benefits are we not receiving? He will ensure that the United States will live up to its promise to assist us in obtaining a higher standard of living. I guess the billions already given and possibly squandered aren't enough for his sense of entitlement. He takes that attitude of entitlement to Congress and then he will have 504 people with an actual voting power angry with him and, by extension, us.

Kilili Sablan has publicly stated on several occasions that he is merely the messenger for many of the funds that we have received on his watch. Yet, there are many, including the Covenant Party and Republican Party political machines, who say he is taking credit for getting these funds for the CNMI. Not true. The governor has said that Kilili won't cooperate with his office. First, cooperating with the governor isn't the delegate's job. The congressman works for and represents the people of the CNMI in the United States House of Representatives. He is NOT the personal representative of the governor or the CNMI Legislature. Heck, they can't do the work they were elected to do; yet they want to have our delegate under their wing. The fact is that the governor has all but refused to meet with our congressman. The governor can make or get someone to make any and all of the excuses he wants. After all, Angelo Villagomez only waited a year and a half to say that he was the reason for the mix up regarding the governor's failure to attend the congressman's inauguration. Since then the lieutenant governor meets with the congressman more than the governor does. If it walks like a duck, quacks like a duck. I could go on but I think you get the idea.

The electorate in the CNMI will, as always, go to the polls and vote for a cousin, an uncle, or whatever without any regard for who is actually best for the job. Then they will complain vociferously about the winner. For the umpteenth time I urge the people to stop voting for who your dad, uncle, mother, aunt, grandparents tell you to...only you and God are in the voting booth. Do we really want our delegate to Congress position to be yet another musical chair? I don't. Let's keep in office a man who went to Congress and proved he can do the job. Vote for Kilili in November.

John H. Davis
Fina Sisu, Saipan

SELF-RELIANCE

From Page 10

It's worth recalling what Thomas Jefferson called "the sum of good government" in his first Inaugural Address: "a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."

The 2010 Index of Dependence shows that we're drifting further and further from this ideal. Let's hope that Americans wake up before we go too far down this dangerous path.

Ed Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

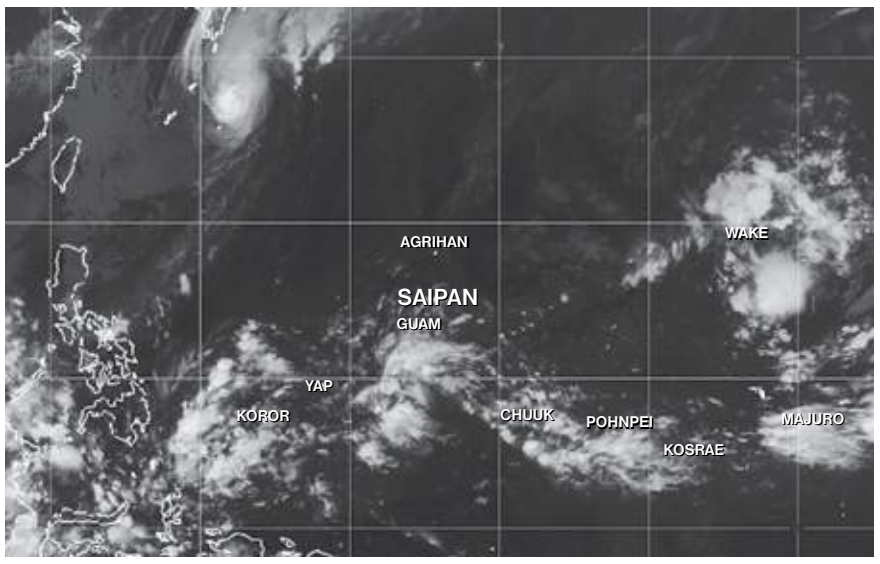
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲82	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲83	▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼51
Beijing	Sunny	▲65	▼40
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲78	▼54
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼73
London	Showers	▲55	▼51
Los Angeles	Showers	▲68	▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲55	▼52
Miami	Showers	▲82	▼71
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼44
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼57
Paris	Fog	▲58	▼44
Pusan	Sunny	▲67	▼53
Rome	Rain	▲71	▼56
Salem	Showers	▲57	▼48
San Francisco	Showers	▲65	▼58
Seoul	Sunny	▲63	▼45
Tokyo	Showers	▲66	▼58
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼47

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Chaba (16W) is northeast of Okinawa near 27N132E. Low-level convergence southeast of the typhoon is causing showers north of a line from 25N134E to 22N130E. For additional information on Typhoon Chaba, refer to JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Koror southwest of a line from 11N136E to 4N137E and just south of Guam between Yap and Chuuk within 125 miles of a line from 11N146E to 6N142E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from Chuuk to near Kosrae within 125 miles of a line from 7N151E to 4N161E and across the Marshall Islands between 5N and 8N from 168E eastward across the date line. A mid to upper-level trough over the Wake Island area is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in an area bounded by a line from 22N164E to 24N173E to 20N175E to 14N167E back to 22N164E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:36 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
2:14 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
7:53 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:49 PM
Monday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Wednesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		12:14 PM
Sunday	12:03 AM	1:01 PM
Monday	1:01 AM	1:45 PM
Tuesday	1:58 AM	2:29 PM
Wednesday	2:56 AM	3:14 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
C09316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service
located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Business

Mild increase in economic growth expected in Q3

WASHINGTON (AP)—The economy likely expanded at a greater rate last quarter as Americans loosened a tight grip on their wallets. But the expected pickup in growth wasn't strong enough to make a noticeable dent in high unemployment.

Leading economists polled in a new AP Economy Survey predict the economy expanded at an annual rate of 2 percent in the July-September quarter. That would mark an improvement from the feeble 1.7 percent growth rate logged in April-June period. To knock down the unemployment rate, however, growth would need to be at least twice as fast as the 2 percent rate expected for the third quarter.

Looking ahead to the current quarter, economic growth isn't expected to be much better, logging just a 2.4 percent pace, according to the AP survey.

If that's that case, the economy will end 2010 on weaker footing than it started. In the first quarter, the economy expanded at a 3.7 percent pace.

"It's a half-speed economic rebound," said Brian Bethune, economist at IHS Global Insight.

One year after the recession ended, the economy has failed to generate the kind of growth needed to ratchet down unemployment and bring relief to the nearly 15 million Americans now out of work. The unemployment rate averaged 9.6 percent in the third quarter, down only a notch from the 9.7 percent average for the second quarter.

That's why the Federal Reserve is widely expected on Nov. 3 to announce a second round of government bond buying. The program will pump billions of dollars into the economy. Doing so will lower rates on mortgages and other loans. Anticipation of the Fed's action has already helped push down mortgage rates to their lowest levels in decades. The Fed hopes that cheaper credit will spur people and companies to boost their spending, which would strengthen the economy.

Even if the Fed's plan works, economists said it is likely to provide only a modest boost to economic growth—perhaps a couple tenths of a percentage point - in the final quarter of this year. Still, the extra economic activity wouldn't be sufficient to drive down unemployment, economists said. The rate is still expected to be above 9 percent by the end of this year, even with new Fed aid.

The Commerce Department releases its first estimate of the third-quarter's performance on Friday morning—just days before the nation goes to the polls on Tuesday to elect a new Congress. Angry voters could cost Democrats their control of the House, and maybe the Senate. The weak economy means Americans with jobs are seeing scant wage gains and those without are facing fierce competition for the few openings that become available. Home foreclosures have soared.

"With this kind of economic growth, we're in for a long, painful haul," said Sean Snaith, an economics professor at the University of Central Florida. "This kind of slow growth can only chip away at the unemployment rate. Growth must be much more robust to really bring it down."

Under one rule of thumb, the economy would need to expand by 5 percent for a full year to knock the jobless rate down by a full percentage point.

For all of this year, the economy is expected to grow 2.6 percent. That would mark an improvement from 2009. The gross domestic product shrank that year by an equal amount, the largest annual decline since 1946. GDP measures the values of all goods and services—from machinery to manicures—produced in the United States.

The slight pickup anticipated in third-quarter growth would mainly reflect a mild uptick in consumer spending. A stock-market rebound made people feel better about spending, and bargains—from cars to electronics—also drew them out. Consumer spending probably rose at a 2.4 pace, up from a 2.2 percent rate in the second quarter. For a robust economic rebound, consumers would need to spend at a pace closer to 5 percent.

Business spending, however, probably cooled. Analysts believe businesses didn't spend as much on equipment and software, after logging double-digits gains in the prior three quarters. Businesses also probably cut spending at a faster pace in the third quarter on commercial construction projects like office buildings and factories. And, spending on home building is likely to shrivel, acting as a restraint on overall growth.

Nation

Tests warned of cement troubles before BP blowout

WASHINGTON (AP)—Tests performed before the deadly blowout of BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico should have raised doubts about the cement used to seal the well, but the company and its cementing contractor used it anyway, investigators with the president's oil spill commission said Thursday.

It's the first finding from the commission looking into the causes of the April 20 explosion that killed 11 workers and led to the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. And it appears to conflict with statements made by Halliburton Co., which has said its tests showed the cement mix was stable. The company instead has said BP's well design and operations were responsible for the disaster.

The cement mix's failure to prevent oil and gas from entering the well has been identified by BP and others as one of the causes of the accident.

BP and Halliburton decided to use a foam slurry created by injecting nitrogen into cement to secure the bottom of the well, a decision outside experts have criticized.

The panel said that of four tests done in February and April by Halliburton, only one—the last—showed the mix would hold. But the results of that single successful test were not shared with BP, and may not have reached Halliburton, before the cement was pumped, according to a letter sent to commissioners Thursday by chief investigative counsel Fred H. Bartlit Jr.

BP had in hand at the time of the blowout the results of only one of the tests—a February analysis sent to BP by Halliburton in a March 8 e-mail that indicated the cement could fail. The slurry tested in that case was a slightly different blend, and assumed a slightly different well design, but there is no indication that Halliburton flagged the problem for BP, or that BP had concerns, the letter said.

"Halliburton (and perhaps BP) should have considered redesigning the foam slurry before pumping it at the Macondo well," Bartlit wrote. Independent tests conducted for the commission by Chevron on a nearly identical mixture were also released Thursday. The results concluded that the cement mix was unstable, raising questions about the validity of Halliburton's final test.

Sources: Most US troops, families say gays OK

WASHINGTON (AP)—An internal Pentagon study has found that most U.S. troops and their families don't care whether gays are allowed to serve openly and think the policy of "don't ask, don't tell" could be done away with, according to officials familiar with its findings.

The survey results were expected to be used by gay rights advocates to bolster their argument that the 1993 law on gays could be repealed immediately with little harm done to the military. But the survey also was expected to reveal challenges the services could face in overturning the long-held policy, including overcoming fierce opposition in some parts of the military even if they represent a minority.

Details on the survey results were still scarce Thursday, with the Pentagon declining to discuss the findings until after Dec. 1 when it rolls out its own plan for repeal.

The officials who disclosed the survey's findings spoke on condition of anonymity because the results had not been released. NBC News first reported the findings Thursday.

President Barack Obama has said "don't ask, don't tell" unfairly discriminates against gays. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, the military's top uniformed officer, agree but want to move slowly to ensure that military effectiveness doesn't suffer.

Among their top concerns is that forcing too much change, too soon on an institution that historically has been reluctant to embrace gays could prompt a backlash among troops and their families.

With a Democratic-controlled Congress already considering a change to the law, Gates in February ordered a yearlong study into the matter. As part of that effort, the Pentagon sent out some 400,000 surveys to troops and another 150,000 to family members on the military's policy toward gays.

Officials said that with the survey results complete, the working group is analyzing the results and working on a plan to overturn the policy should Congress repeal the law.

Gay rights groups attacked the 103-question survey. They said it assumes troops don't want to serve with openly gay service members and repeatedly uses the term "homosexual," considered to be outdated and derogatory.

The survey was prepared by the Maryland-based research firm Westat under a $4.5 million contract.

CNMI Voting Accessibility Survey

Help us make your voting experience an accessible one!

The Commonwealth Election Commission, together with the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, and the Northern Marianas College University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, is conducting a survey on voter accessibility. We are asking for everyone's feedback on the voting process so that we can make improvements.

Why are we conducting this survey?

Through gathering your input, we are working together to improve your voting experience.

CNMI Voting Accessibility Survey 2010
Please Mark your answers accordingly inside the box provided.
1)Have you observed any voters with disabilities encountering difficulties with voting or with accessing the polling place?
Yes
No
Comments:
2) If you are a person with a disability
experience any problems while voting?
SAMPLE

Please give your completed survey to a poll worker at the voting site.

CNMI Council on Development Disabilities

UCEDD

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ACROSS THE NATION

Anti-gay Ark. school board member to resign

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—A member of an Arkansas school board who posted on Facebook that he thinks gay youths should kill themselves has told CNN he'll resign. Midland School Board member Clint McCance said on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360" on Thursday night that the language he had used in his Facebook posts was "too harsh ... too emotional" and apologized if his remarks hurt anybody. Gay rights groups had been calling for McCance's ouster. McCane's posting was in response to a campaign to show solidarity after several gay youths who had allegedly been bullied committed suicide. The Midland School District is based at Pleasant Plains in Independence County, about 70 miles northeast of Little Rock.

Non-Christian Air Force cadets cite proselytizing

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—A survey of Air Force Academy cadets found that 41 percent of those who identified themselves as non-Christian said they were subjected to unwanted proselytizing at least once or twice last year. The voluntary, anonymous survey was taken in December and January. About 47 percent of all cadets responded. Academy officials resisted disclosing specifics of the survey but plan to release some figures on Friday after several groups, including The Associated Press, filed Freedom of Information Act requests. The AP obtained a copy of the figures on Thursday.

San Diego policeman, 2 others dead after shootout

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A shootout at an apartment left a police officer and two other people dead Thursday, sending dozens of residents running from their homes, many in their pajamas. Officer Christopher Wilson was fatally shot in the confrontation that began Wednesday night, when San Diego County officers and U.S. marshals went to check on a man on probation and serve an arrest warrant on another. After the man on probation slammed the door in their faces, officers pushed their way into the apartment and arrested him, said Assistant Police Chief Jim Collins. Four other people ran into a back bedroom, including the man police believe was named on the warrant, he said.

World

Death toll from Indonesian disasters tops 400

MENTAWAI ISLANDS, Indonesia (AP)—The fisherman was jolted awake by the powerful earthquake and ran with his screaming neighbors to high ground. He said they watched as the sea first receded and then came roaring back "like a big wall" that swept away their entire village.

"Suddenly trees, houses and all things in the village were sucked into the sea and nothing was left," Joni Sageru recalled Thursday in one of the first survivor accounts of this week's tsunami that slammed into islands off western Indonesia.

The death toll rose to 370 as officials found more bodies, although hundreds of people remained missing. Harmensyah, head of the West Sumatra provincial disaster management center, said rescue teams "believe many, many of the bodies were swept to sea."

Along with the 33 people killed by a volcano that erupted Tuesday more than 800 miles (1,300 kilometers) to the east in central Java, the number of dead from the twin disasters has now topped 400. Mount Merapi began rumbling again Thursday after a lull that allowed mourners to hold a mass burial for its victims. There were no reports of new injuries or damage.

The catastrophes struck within 24 hours in different parts of the seismically active country, severely testing Indonesia's emergency response network.

Aid workers trickling into the remote region found giant chunks of coral and rocks in places where homes once stood. Huge swaths of land were submerged. Swollen corpses dotted roads and beaches.

In a rare bright spot, an 18-month-old baby was found alive Wednesday in a clump of trees on Pagai Selatan—the same island where the 30-year-old Sageru lived. Relief coordinator Harmensyah said a 10-year-old boy found the toddler whose parents are both dead.

More than 100 survivors crowded a makeshift medical center in the main town of Sikakap on Pagai Utara—one of the four main islands in the Mentawai chain located between Sumatra and the Indian Ocean.

Some still wept for lost loved ones as they lay on straw mats or sat on the floor, waiting for medics to treat injuries such as cuts and broken limbs. Outside, some rescuers wore face masks as they wrapped corpses in black body bags.

A young woman named Adek sobbed uncontrollably as she tried to talk about her year-old baby who was washed away. "Oh, don't ask me again," she said, wiping her tears and turning away.

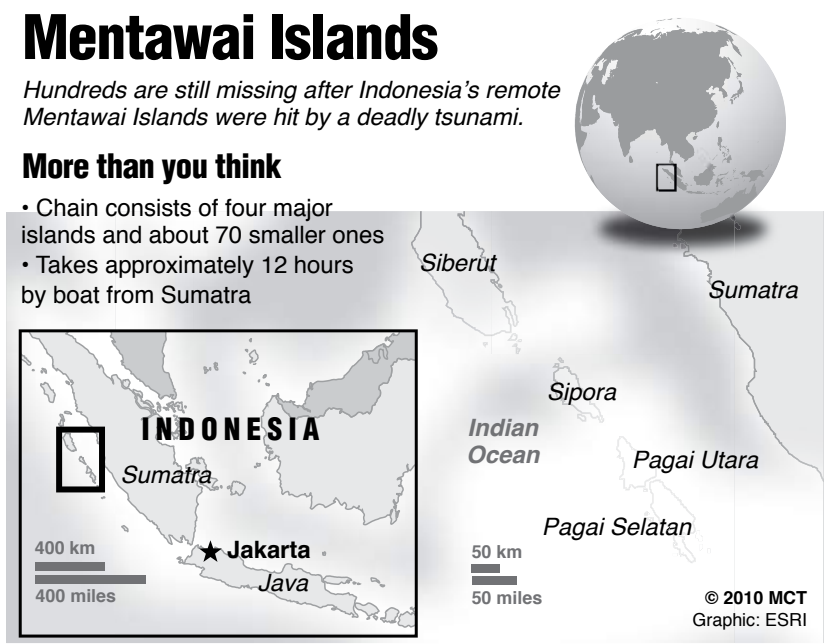
One of the hardest hit areas with 65 dead was the village of Pro Rogat, on Pagai Seatandug island.

Villagers there huddled under tarps in the rain and told how many people who had fled to the hills were now too afraid to return home.

Mud and palm fronds covered the body of the village's 60-year-old pastor, Simorangkir. He lay on the ground, partially zipped into a body bag. Police and relatives took turns pushing a shovel into the sodden dirt next to him for his grave.

His 28-year-old grandson, Rio, traveled by boat to Pro Rogat from his home on a nearby island to check on his relatives after the quake and tsunami. He said he was picking through the wreckage when someone cried out that he had found a body.

Rio walked over and saw his dead grandfather partially buried under several toppled palm trees.



WORLD BRIEFS

Russia's Kamchatka volcanoes spew giant ash clouds

MOSCOW (AP)—Two volcanoes erupted Thursday on Russia's far-eastern Kamchatka Peninsula, tossing massive ash clouds miles (kilometers) into the air, forcing flights to divert and blanketing one town with thick, heavy ash. The Klyuchevskaya Sopka, Eurasia's highest active volcano, exploded along with the Shiveluch volcano, 45 miles (70 kilometers) to the northeast, the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry's branch in Kamchatka said, adding that flights in the area had to change course. Ash clouds from the remote volcanoes billowed up to 33,000 feet (10 kilometers) and were spreading east across the Pacific Ocean, vulcanologist Sergei Senyukov told Rossiya 24 television. Streams of lava flowed down the slopes of Shiveluch.

Court urges arrest of war crimes suspects

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The president of the International Criminal Court urged the international community on Thursday to intensify efforts to arrest eight people sought for alleged war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide—including Sudan's president and four commanders of the Lord's Resistance Army. Judge Sang-Hyun Song told the U.N. General Assembly on Thursday that the failure to arrest these men is "deeply troubling" and is having "a devastating effect" on victims and communities affected by the crimes. The International Criminal Court, or ICC, has no police force and is "completely reliant" on member states to enforce its orders, he said.

9 policemen killed in ambush in western Mexico

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP)—Unidentified gunmen ambushed a convoy of five police vehicles in the western Mexico state of Jalisco on Thursday, killing nine officers and leaving one missing. The 20 officers in the convoy were outnumbered by the attackers, who were riding in about ten sport utility vehicles, the Jalisco state public safety department said in a statement. The ten officers who survived the attack fought an hours-long battle with the gunmen, and several were wounded. The attackers used grenades and assault rifles before fleeing into neighboring Michoacan state.

UN: At least 1,800 of Guinea's Peul forced to flee

CONAKRY, Guinea (AP)—Thousands of Guineans from the Peul ethnic group have been forced to flee their homes in ethnic clashes ahead of the country's upcoming presidential election, officials said Thursday, overshadowing a looming poll in a country that has never succeeded in freely electing its leader. The Peul have been chased out of towns in the country's north by Malinke supporters of Conde in a tit-for-tat fight following rumors that Peul businessmen tried to serve tainted water sachets at a Conde rally last Friday. The violence spread from the capital, where Conde's party said at least 160 of their supporters became intoxicated after drinking the water sachets, to the towns surrounding Kankan in the country's far north, which is a stronghold of Conde's party. Peul businesses were set on fire and looted.

China, Japan meet amid territorial tensions

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—China and Japan met Friday in an attempt to repair soured relations over a maritime territorial dispute, with Japan asking for the lifting of a block on rare earth exports that has hampered its high-tech manufacturing.

China's Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and his Japanese counterpart Seiji Maehara went into private talks on the sidelines of a regional Asian summit, hoping to lay the foundation for a meeting between Premier Wen Jiabao and Prime Minister Naoto Kan.

"The discussion took place in a good atmosphere. It was held calmly while both sides said what we should say. I believe it is likely that the leaders of China and Japan will hold a meeting here in Hanoi," Maehara told reporters after the hour-plus talks in the Vietnamese capital.

The two countries have sought to repair ties brought to a new low after a Chinese fishing trawler collided with Japanese patrol boats last month near disputed islands in the East China Sea. Tensions have remained high, despite Japan's release of the boat captain, with anti-Japanese protests flaring up in cities across China.

Japan also asked China to unblock the export of rare earths and reopen talks on the joint development of gas fields in the East China Sea, Maehara said, adding that China responded that it would consider both requests. Beijing suspended the gas field talks during the spat, but has denied blocking rare earth exports.

Maehara said that Japan "repeated its position firmly" regarding the territorial issue over the East China islands, known as Senkaku in Japanese and Diaoyu in Chinese. Both countries claim the islands.

Territorial disputes between China and its neighbors are expected to be raised during the continuing regional summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which will broaden to include other leaders from Asia, the United States, Russia and elsewhere.

China has laid claim to strategically placed and potentially oil-rich islands in the South China Sea, but parts of it are also claimed by several Southeast Asian countries, including Vietnam.

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Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, October 30, 2010

RP Consulate on Saipan now has official website

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ON THE NET
www.philippinessaipan.org

The Philippine Consulate General Office on Saipan is keeping with the technology-driven times with an official website that can now be accessed by the public.

Consul General Medardo Macaraig confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* that the website www.philippinessaipan.org is now fully functional.

Macaraig said the new website contains information and updates about the various programs and services of the consulate like e-passports, training course schedules, and the different consular forms.

The website also has information about the consulate office on Saipan as well as various consulate offices in the United States.

It provides pertinent data about the Philippines like its history and people, geography, climate, accessibility, travel formalities, accommodation, and economy and trade-related figures.

"This website is another way of reaching out to the Filipino community not only on Saipan but also to the rest of the Filipinos around the world," he said.

Macaraig said the information they have on the website used to be posted on the bulletin board at their office or announcements released to the media.

According to the consul general, Filipinos on Saipan can easily access all these information just by going online and visiting their website.

Macaraig, however, noted that the website is "a work in progress."

He said Filipino organizations on Saipan may ask to have their activities announced on the website.

But requests made will be dealt with on a case-to-case basis and the consulate reserves the right to approve such request, said Macaraig.

For more information, visit www.philippinessaipan.org.

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Sep 21, 2010
Philippine Consulate General to Continue Offering LIVELIHOOD MODULES ON VIDEO (GABAY SA NEGOSYO) for Overseas Filipino Workers in Saipan
Announcement Archives
President
Benigno S. Aquino III
News
10/28/2010 - DONATIONS FOR VICTIMS OF TYPHOON "JUAN"
10/19/2010 - OFWs requested to contact Consulate
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Picture shows the homepage of the Philippine Consulate General's website, www.philippinessaipan.org.

Saipan group builds two classrooms in the Philippines

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By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Filipino organization on Saipan was able to help build twin classrooms with one restroom in the Philippines.

The Saipan Simbang Gabi Group funded this year the construction of the twin classrooms at the Lagonglong Elementary School in Misamis Oriental.

This brings to three the number of classroom projects completed by the Saipan Simbang Gabi Group. The group donated $8,000 for each of the three classrooms.

The first classroom built in 2005 was for the Lalawigan Elementary School in Boronggan, Samar. The second was built in 2009 for Labnig Elementary School in Albay.

The classroom building project of the Saipan Simbang Gabi Group aims to address the critical shortage of classrooms in a country where public schools hold classes in improvised classrooms such as stairways or under trees.

The group decides where to build classrooms based on information provided by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office, which identifies schools in depressed areas in the Philippines that are in dire need of classrooms.

The Saipan Simbang Gabi Group was founded in 1977, the same year when the *simbang gabi* [night masses] tradition began on Saipan. The group was then known as Pilipino Association in Northern Mariana Islands or PANMI.

The group was later named Filipino Community CNMI Inc. in 1988. It became the Saipan Simbang Gabi Group last year.

Officers of the group are Mar Pacson, president; Danny Domingo, vice president; Racquel Mostales, secretary; and Alice Abueme, treasurer.

Each day of the nine days in the *simbang gabi* tradition has an assigned sponsor coordinator who gets sponsorships to raise $8,000 for the construction of the classrooms.

The sponsor coordinators are the Philippine Consulate General, POLO, and United Filipino Organization on Dec. 16; Mar Pacson and Tony Soriano on Dec. 17; Rommel and Racquel Mostales on Dec. 18; Bill and Alice Abueme on Dec. 19; Eddie and Helen Caranzo on Dec. 20; Celia and Charlene Pagapular on Dec. 21; Roselle and Linda Torres and Lito and Malou Mendoza on Dec. 22; Maribel Loste and family on Dec. 23; and Nenette Delos Santos and Rene Atienza on Dec. 24.

Aside from the classroom project, the group also helps other organizations on Saipan such as Mt. Carmel Cathedral and Karidat Social Services.

For more information, contact the group at 235-5009 or 234-8476.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The two new classrooms built using funds donated by the Saipan Simbang Gabi Group.

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The official turnover of the newly built classrooms.

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-Joseph Norita Camacho

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- Defend and expand the CNMI's unique tax system to encourage and attract businesses to invest in the CNMI
- Remove restrictions to allow businesses to grow and invest in order to create jobs for our people
- Leverage the authority of the US Congress to bring more airlines to the CNMI
- Protect and preserve our islands' environment to ensure continuation of our tourism industry
- Minimize and abolish federal taxes on imports and exports to alleviate the high cost of commodities
- Aggressively pursue the people's rights to waters adjacent to our islands that rightfully belongs to the CNMI and her people
- Remove obstacles to affordable and reliable health care

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AP

Boxer Manny Pacquiao, right, of the Philippines, trains with Freddie Roach for his upcoming boxing match with Antonio Margarito at the Wild Card Gym in Los Angeles, Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

Roach: Pacquiao having worst-ever training camp

By GREG BEACHAM
AP SPORTS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—When Manny Pacquiao finally made his way past the autograph hounds and the process server to climb the rickety staircase to the Wild Card Gym, he was met by dozens of fans, fellow fighters, reporters and even a television star, all wanting a moment before his workout.

Hollywood is jam-packed with distractions for the world's top pound-for-pound boxer—and the man they call Pacman isn't even a congressman in this country.

Trainer Freddie Roach says Pacquiao is having the worst training camp of his career heading into his Nov. 13 meeting with Antonio Margarito in Texas.

In the five months since he won a congressional seat in his native Philippines, boxing has lost some of its urgency for Pacquiao. Roach can even cite physical evidence their careers have been hurt by politics.

"He has a foot problem, and that's because he wears dress shoes too much," Roach said, referring to the nagging left heel injury that has slowed Pacquiao's running.

Although Roach thinks he'll have no problem putting together a speed-based game plan to beat the bigger Margarito, he's worried about Pacquiao's ability to execute it. The fighter who flawlessly teamed with boxing's most respected trainer to forge a 12-fight winning streak just doesn't have the same focus, or even the same drive.

"At two in the morning, I'm walking around Baguio pulling my hair out, saying, 'What do I have to do?'" Roach said, referring to the Filipino city where they trained before returning to Los Angeles last weekend.

"I know his mind is off the fight. I know his mind is somewhere else, and that's because of politics. If there are no more challenges out there after this fight, this could be it. If Floyd (Mayweather Jr.) doesn't come to the table, I don't know what's going to challenge him. He loves his other job, and he might be done with this one."

Roach hopes the move stateside will help, although the hubbub Wednesday at the open workout suggested otherwise.

After Pacquiao apparently was served with papers in an envelope on the way into the gym, he quickly got his hands wrapped before walking slowly around the ring in the Wild Card's stifling heat, patiently answering questions from dozens of reporters. Perhaps after greeting actor Jeremy Piven, Pacquiao would be ready to train.

"I've been under pressure and tough conditions before," Pacquiao said. "The training is going good, but the problem is aside from training, there's lots of stuff to do. ... I'm thinking about (retirement), but I can still fight. I think I'll do a few more."

The mob scene in Los Angeles is a sea of tranquility compared to home, where the 31-year-old spends at least part of each day as the Honorable Emmanuel D. Pacquiao, newly elected congressman from the Sarangani province. Although he's formally excused from legislative duties during training, he still takes regular phone calls from his staff, sometimes even in the middle of workouts.

And for the first time in his career with Roach, Pacquiao took a day off from training to travel to Manila for a meeting with President Benigno Aquino III, although Pacquiao claims he got in a workout there.

"Even if it was the worst training camp we ever had, he never missed a day before," Roach said.

Pacquiao has suggested he'll make it up to Roach by proposing a bill to grant Filipino citizenship to the trainer, who says he has never voted in an American election.

"I'd still vote for Manny if I'm a citizen," Roach said, laughing.

In his spare time, Pacquiao also has a wife and four kids, gestating careers in singing and acting, and a variety of business interests including a greater marketing push for his Nike apparel.

Pacquiao's promoter, Bob Arum, acknowledges his fighter's life has become ridiculously complicated, but doesn't share Roach's pessimism.

"These things would be distractions to any other fighter or any other human being," Arum said. "Not Manny. He has the ability to multitask like nobody else I've ever seen. He doesn't let distractions affect his performance. I've seen him go from meetings all day to a workout, and then he'll wash up and eat and go to band rehearsal."

Arum also promotes Margarito and has an interest in talking up the fight, but even he can't discount Pacquiao's fearsome abilities.

"If Manny is trained and is in good condition, because of his skill set, he should be able to handle Margarito," Arum said. "He's just different than anybody else fighting today. The only guy who comes close to those abilities is Floyd."

Pacquiao won't stop politicking even on this continent: He's headed to Las Vegas on Friday for a quick campaign stop in support of Harry Reid, the Democratic senator and combat sports advocate in a tight race with Tea Party candidate Sharron Angle.

Yet Pacquiao claims he has plenty of time to get his mind and body right to face Margarito, the hard-punching Mexican with a 5-inch height advantage. The fight is at a 150-pound catch weight, but the winner will get a 154-pound title, which would be a belt in Pacquiao's eighth weight class.

"I have to win this fight to prove I can move to a higher division easily," Pacquiao said. "That's my role, to fight bigger men."

This U.S. Delegate Election will chart the course of the future for everyone residing in the CNMI, including Filipinos.

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Maharlika – PinoyStyle

TAKE FIVE

How 'Bubble Gang' keeps it fresh and funny after 15 years

By MARINEL R. CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Multi-awarded comedian Michael V is convinced that the late novelty singer Yoyoy Villame should be conferred the National Artist Award.

"He was a genius," said Bitoy, who is an original cast member of the longest-running gag show "Bubble Gang." "I am a big fan of Yoyoy. I would gladly campaign for him if I have to. He's my idol."

Villame, or Roman Tesorio Villame in real life, popularized the songs "Butse Kik," "Tarzan and Barok," "My Country, My Philippines" and "Take It! Take It!" among many others. He recorded more than 25 albums, won several awards and made a lot of hits that earned him the title of "King of Philippine Novelty Songs."

For its 15th anniversary celebration, "Bubble Gang" pays tribute to the legendary singer-composer and comedian with a horror-comedy musical extravaganza. The hour-long show, which airs tonight, is inspired by Villame's song "Bungalow." It tells of the horrifying experiences of two cousins (portrayed by Bitoy and Ogie Alcasid) after inheriting a haunted bungalow from their deceased grandfather.

Excerpts from Inquirer Entertainment's recent chat with Bitoy:

What's the show's formula for success?

It doesn't have any—it's not good to rely on one. We tried it before, but people didn't appreciate it. You really have to constantly find something new to offer the audience.

Aren't you concerned that the show is being aired so late at night?

Ma-pride na kasi ang creative team namin. We know that we will do good kahit anong oras mo kami ilagay.

Who do you wish to see on the show in the future?

I want to work with Bossing (Vic Sotto) and Dolphy, and all the comedy greats. There was one anniversary presentation when we invited the cast members of defunct gag shows like "Tropang Trumpo," "Going Bananas" and "Super Laff-In." That was fun and interesting.

Do you have a say on who leaves and joins the show?

I don't, but I won't mind working with new talents. Some artists flourish in comedy when they start working with us. They are able to show a side of themselves that viewers have not seen before. They feel shy in the beginning. Eventually, after a month or two, wala nang hiya.

I'm part of the original cast, so is Ogie, Wendell Ramos, Antonio Aquitania, Eric Fructuoso, Aiko Melendez and Sunshine Cruz. Later, Susan Lozada, Assunta de Rossi and Jackie Manzano came in. The talents also need to grow and move on. Most of them opted to focus on family life.

Do you also change writers as often as you change talents?

Yes, but writers Cesar Cosme, Chito Francisco, Mon Roco and (the show's director) Uro dela Cruz have always been there. They're part of the show's core.

What are you most proud about "Bubble Gang?"

I take pride in the fact that it was able to withstand the test of time. When we were just starting, our aim was to last for five years. Later, our target was to beat the longest-running gag show, "T.O.D.A.S." It aired for 10 years. Now, I personally want to beat the record of "John en Marsha," 17 years.

What do you consider the show's most memorable episodes?

For me, the pilot was the most memorable. All of us lacked sleep then. That was the most tiring episode we ever made. The anniversary special that featured cast members of past gag shows was also memorable. Even the people of "Champoy" joined us. Lastly, the 12th anniversary episode. It was our first attempt at producing a musical. I was tasked to write 10 to 12 songs for that episode.

What's the most difficult episode?

I think the 15th anniversary special was really hard to do. We had very limited time and resources to shoot, and we're pressured to still come up with something good.

What are the most memorable places the show has visited?

Our first trip to the United States was special. We encountered a lot of problems there. We all had to learn how to be resourceful. Japan is second. It's always been the favorite place of the whole cast. It's such a beautiful country.

Of the characters you've portrayed in the past, who is closest to your heart?

I've lost count of the characters I've played, but I have to say that Junie Lee is the most important. He's my alter-ego. He was the host na palpak palagi. He's always unprepared to face his interviewee. Junie Lee even had his own show, "Celebrity Turns" with Lani Misalucha.

TV5 has been very aggressive lately in improving its programming. Did you get any offers to transfer?

The truth is, we all received offers but we can't leave "Bubble Gang." Aside from the fact that we are all under contract with GMA 7, the show has already become part of our lives.

How do you keep the show still interesting after all these years?

That's when the other staff members come into the picture. If I'm not in the mood, sasaluhin ako ni Ogie. I do the same for him. If both of us are not in the mood, Rufa Mae (Quinto) and the others help lift our spirits up.

Do you see yourself working on the show without Ogie?

I don't think I would last long on the show without him. I guess that's the formula—there has to be an Ogie where there's a Bitoy. We help each other out. Kapag nasa taas s'ya, nasa baba ako and vice versa.

"Bubble Gang" airs every Friday right after "Beauty Queen" on the GMA Telebabad time slot.

Arnel Pineda opens own club

By POCHOLO CONCEPCION
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Journey lead singer Arnel Pineda, back in town after recording his vocal parts in Los Angeles for the American rock band's new CD, is trying his hand in the music club business.

He has pooled some of his earnings with a few partners and put up a club that will feature live band music.

The club's name, Knellsky's Rockville, is located on Timog Avenue, Quezon City, near Tomas Morato just off the Boy Scouts Rotonda going towards Edsa.

The place will have a soft-opening today, Oct. 30, according to Pineda's wife Cherry.

In an interview last month, Pineda had informed the Inquirer about the club. He has performed in countless clubs all his life, and to open his own place is a dream come true.

"The music you will hear there is all rock ... pop-rock, folk-rock, metal, *basta* rock. *Yun naman talaga ang hilig ko e*," he said.

He had originally wanted to call it Rock Bar, but apparently it sounded too generic; its new name, Knellsky, is a playful variation on "Arnel."

Needless to say, Knellsky's Rockville will gladly open its doors to promising young groups, as well as the country's best bands.

At a time when live gigs appear to be thriving here and abroad in the face of diminishing album sales, the opening of Knellsky's Rockville is a practical business move on the part of its owner.

Refalúwasch Community for Joseph Norita Camacho

Ow siya tiptiyew sibwe botali Joseph Norita Camacho bwe ii mille eghi fil ebwe mwoghutaghali me ateew tipasch mellol Iimwal Congressol America.

Ow siya botali Joseph Norita Camacho.

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Maharlika – Opinyon

The days of kites and 'komiks'

Highblood
By HUGO "BOBOY" YONZON
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

When you have whisked past the age of 60, some retirees say, there is no better way to relish your remaining days but to look back. Are they serious? I jump to the music of Lady Gaga and tap dance to my iPad, so certainly I am not ready to gaze languidly at the sunset as yet.

Many of my silver-haired buddies complain that kids get too absorbed in the virtual world, befriending humans with pseudonyms and pasted faces, only to be themselves seduced by Facebook and role-playing games.

In our games, piko and tumbang preso, we played our selves. Our opponents and wounds were real. We hoarded jolens (marbles) and teks (playing cards) in shoeboxes and not imaginary Farmville crops in overworked hard disks.

The kids of today enjoy a myriad of entertainment fare. There are now, for instance, graphic novels or new generation comics. Must haves, the kids aver.

I didn't use to buy comics. Every time my Mom came home with her bayong from the talipapa (wet market) in Paco, she would bring comics, hot from the press, along with kakanin as pasalubong. I would get lost in the pages of fantasies and dramas, first marveling at the drawings by the masters Francisco Coching, Alfredo Alcala and Nestor Redondo; and then finding that comics were teaching me how to read and spell—correctly at that—so unlike today's mobile phones that have spawned a generation of despicable jejemons.

When I was a kid in the 1950s, there were four pillars of comics or komiks that no Samson or Bernardo Carpio could topple: Pilipino Komiks, Hiwaga, Tagalog Klasiks and Espesyal. These komiks would produce classics that are still being rehashed up to today on prime-time television, affirming the caliber of storytelling we had before.

There was a period when I would hoist my collection of comics to the other side of the railroad tracks in San Andres, set up my flimsy d.i.y. (do-it-yourself) rack where I hung my collection and, in front of a busy health center, rented them. At age 7, I was learning how to share the joys of comics albeit handsomely. Of course, I got my ears pinched by my Mom for straying away precariously far from home.

At home, I was awed by this virtuoso of an artist who worked as an art director by day and painter by night. He was one of the pioneers of comics after World War II: my dad, Hugo. I could be like him, I thought, unaware then that good drawing not only extracts blood but tears from its practitioners.

One time during a summer vacation in my Mom's hometown in Agusan, I came across my cousin's amazing collection of American comics. I particularly liked several issues of super heroes that I, obviously, couldn't take home but wanted copies of. There were no Xerox machines during that time. So I resorted to the best technology available: while my cousins were flying giant gurions (kites), I got busy hand drawing/copying without tracing each page of the illustrations.

Comics or sequential art is definitely a visual medium. Notwithstanding novelists like Mars Ravelo or Pablo Gomez, comics can only spring alive with drawings. And terrific cartoonists and comics artists we had a surfeit of. In the 1970s, talent scouts from the United States were astounded to find a goldmine in the Philippines. For a time, some 200 Filipinos worked for DC, Marvel and other brands in America.

In the 1960s up to the 1980s, dozens upon dozens of comics titles proliferated in our shores. Each issue reached 200,000 or so copies, surpassing the circulation of most newspapers of today. The bonanza did not last long. The wind was changing direction.

Academics point to the cutthroat competition and the decline of quality of works for the demise of comics in the Philippines. Also, television was taking over as the entertainment vehicle of choice. Then Betamax was invented. Movies, threatened by the presence of tapes, instead of cowering, took the notch further.

Came too the game consoles—from Game Boy to Play Stations. Then came the Internet and the mobile phones, offering seamless connectivity and limitless entertainment. Old fogies like me were overwhelmed but beguiled.

Comics became an endangered species and yet paradoxically offered itself as progenitor of materials for cinema blockbusters. Thus came in succession Superman, Batman, Fantastic Four, Hellboy, Ironman and a host of others. In the Philippines, we had Darna flying on television even with its ham villains and crude animation graphics. We also recycled dramas.

Like minor miracles, comics are resurrecting in different forms or vehicles. We encounter comics in printed-on-paper graphic novels (actually an extended wakasan). We can now flip them in iPads, follow a series on the Internet, or read them on cell phones. Whew! If only we could be like comics enjoying full revivals in life, not only in brief Viagra episodes.

There are no longer any comics on the sidewalks or talipapa, but bookstores have opened comics sections. Comics conventions are being held more frequently where avid young creators hawk their photocopied "indie" art. Now we have a bigger international comics and animation festival each year.

Today, my 84-year-old Mom watches sumo wrestling, tennis matches and basketball on television, upsetting the neighborhood's peace with her loud cheering and shrieking. Here's a feisty widow enjoying life.

Perhaps I should remind her that she and my Dad long ago introduced me to an art form that poured torrents of words, pictures and new vistas. It was like dancing in the rain. Thank you, guys, for being indulgers!

And oh, I should brandish my senior citizen's card when buying my stash of comics at Fully Booked the next time around.

Hugo "Boboy" Yonzon, 61, is the founding president of the Philippine International Cartoons, Comics and Animation Festival and believes that the country can be a major player in content generation in the world.

EDITORIAL

Crime wave

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As much as maintaining peace and order, it is the task of the police to make citizens feel shielded and safe from criminals. The first would be meaningless without the second, and the second would be impossible to accomplish without the first.

With regard to the first thrust, the Philippine National Police appeared to have gained substantial headway during the first half of the year. In July, then PNP Director-General Jesus Verzosa announced that the crime index went down by almost 70 percent during the first six months of the year.

But shortly thereafter, a wave of criminal violence, starting with the Aug. 23 hostage-taking tragedy at Luneta, swept across the country, eroding the public's sense of security. The bombing of a passenger bus in Matalam, North Cotabato, was among just one of the bloodiest incidents in a continuing stream of headline-grabbing bombings, kidnappings, robbery holdups, car thefts and murders.

Kidnappings were reported in Zamboanga City, Midsayap in North Cotabato, and Siasi in Sulu within a span of less than a month after the abduction of a Muslim trader in Marawi on Aug. 31. Then, of course, there was that grenade explosion last Sept. 26 that injured 35 people, most of them young law students, during the final day of the 2010 bar exams.

Meanwhile, drug trafficking and various forms of the illegal numbers game continue to flourish around the country. The barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections last Oct. 25 left 39 people dead. The police have congratulated themselves for keeping the number of deaths related to last Monday's polls much lower than the 72 recorded in 2007 (although the latest report says the incidence of poll-related violence overshot the 70 in the 2007 elections by eight).

The impression is growing that criminals are able to strike at will, whenever and wherever they please, perhaps emboldened by the bungling of some cases by the police. Thus even police officers are getting killed, while their rogue comrades coddle crime syndicates and live on to become rich and influential.

PNP Director-General Raul Bacalzo has said that minimizing street crimes will be one of his priorities to "help bring back the trust and confidence in the police." He directed the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group to go after crime syndicates. The PNP has also posted on its website (pnp.com.ph) crime prevention and safety tips in an apparent attempt to engage the citizenry in peace-keeping and to alert the public to a possible increase in kidnapping during the Christmas season.

None of these measures is new; in fact, most of these have been proven to be effective in the past. But warnings are not enough. The police would be the first to acknowledge that their presence is the most effective deterrent to crime. And just as powerful is the certainty that when crime does happen, the culprit will not get away. But to do these seemingly simple tasks would require greater discipline and hard work coupled with sincerity and commitment on the part of the police.

The taste of Philippine history

Looking Back
By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Many people learn to cook out of necessity. While I had observed and assisted my mother in the kitchen for years, I never cooked a meal for myself until I lived abroad. After the excitement of being away from home wore off, I realized that food was the first thing an expatriate Filipino misses. In a land where bread and potatoes were the staple, I sought out the local Chinese restaurant, or any place that served rice and ate there every day. Later, I learned two ways of cooking rice: first, using the lines on my fingers to measure the water level that covered the rice, and second, using two cups of water for every cup of rice. After rice, my next problem was the ulam.

This was the age before sinigang mix in a sachet or a bouillon cube, so my mother prepared a personalized, typewritten, survival cooking guide for her favorite son. The first lesson was how to make sinigang using tomatoes and lemon as the souring agent. Fish heads were then given away in the wet markets, and salmon head sinigang was the best.

Paksiw was made with trout and cider vinegar. I learned that the fish was done when the eyes bulged out.

There were a dozen ways to cook ground meat, two dozen ways to deal with chicken. Beef tapa was made from thinly cut sirloin, rubbed and cured with salt and sugar. Tocino was simulated with pork marinated in sugar mixed in Thai or Vietnamese fish sauce, not Pinoy patis. Pork belly was boiled in salt, garlic and pepper and then was left out of the window in winter to dry, and deep-fried the next day into lechon kawali. Blood sausages were mashed to make the stew for dinuguan, etc.

Actual cooking made me realize why home cooking was best. To make beef broth these days, you put a beef cube into a pot of boiling water. In former times, beef bones were first roasted in the oven and then boiled with spices for hours on a wood fire to make a broth rich in color and taste. No beef cube can ever match slow cooking, but I must admit the MSG in a cube does make a difference.

I am told that slow cooking in a traditional earthenware pot or banga produces a subtle improvement in taste, but that was way before the introduction of gas and electric stoves and the microwave. The advent of the rice cooker guarantees perfectly cooked rice, robbing my mother of the burned rice or tutong at the bottom of the pot that she liked, to the horror of her Kapampangan in-laws.

She related that when she was newly wed she quickly discovered one of many incompatibilities with my father. She liked her rice dry and hard, while her husband liked his wet and soft. The solution was to tilt the pot during cooking, resulting in the preferred rice for both.

Leche flan was a house specialty. Since I was raised with authentic leche flan and not the packaged tastes, like variety Alsa Flan served in many restaurants, I am very picky about this standard Filipino dessert. Traditionally, leche flan was made with as many as 36 free range, freshly laid eggs in one llanera! If you have tried the mini-leche flan that goes under the name of tocino del cielo, one mouthful of it contains one egg yolk. So if you have half a dozen of this, your cholesterol and sugar level will shoot up. Leche flan may be one of the simplest things to cook, but one needs the right ingredients to make it special: duck eggs, carabao milk, sasa (nipa) sugar or panotsa. Then you need grated dayap rind to flavor it.

Today we use canned milk, grocery eggs and white sugar. We can even use the "just add milk and water" preparations for instant leche flan, which simulates but not the process and the richness.

Every Filipino dish we eat has a long history that we have forgotten. Adobo, for example, was the response to the environment. In the age before ice and the refrigerators, it was necessary to preserve meat for a number of days. Slow stewing in vinegar gave us the distinct adobo taste we know so well, but the reason for this manner of cooking we overlook or have forgotten.

Our familiar breakfast meats began as preserved meat, but the commercial tocino (sweet cured pork), tapa (dried cured beef) or longanisa (ground meat in pork intestine) will not keep very long without refrigeration nowadays because of the change in preparation. Tocino used to take at least a day to prepare because it had to be air-dried and given its coloring with the bark of a tree called ange, bought from the Chinese store. Today the red color comes from artificial coloring and salitre, which was one of the main ingredients of local gunpowder during the Philippine Revolution.

Tocino and tapa are no longer dried today because, when made in the morning, they can be sold on the same day. Besides, who needs to take time to preserve meat when preservation comes easily with a refrigerator or freezer? The aesthetic and taste are simulated but the original reason for curing meat—preservation—is lost.

Tocino is often pan-fried, but in Pampango homes it becomes very sticky and red because it is boiled in a little water which draws out the taba or lard from the pork thus cooking the tocino in its own fat.

Even the way we cook has changed with the times. There is so much history and culture on our tables every day, one simply has to give things a second look. One needs to see, taste and notice history in Philippine food.

Samu't Sari

EMPLOYER RECOGNITION

Above, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation director Margarita R. Olopai-Taitano delivers her welcome remarks as employers look on during the Employers Recognition Ceremony on Thursday at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

TAX HEARING

Finance Secretary Robert "Bob" Schrack, second from right, sits with other Finance officials at a public hearing held Thursday by the ad hoc Senate Tax Policy and Enforcement Review Committee on Capital Hill. Schrack retired from government service Friday, and the search for his replacement is now on.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NEW CHRISTIAN

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Christening to Victor Joseph R. Mallari! Welcome to the Christian world. Greetings from family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advance happy birthday to our son, Frederic Dean Michael M. Guintu who will turn seven on Halloween, Oct. 31. You are such a blessing, our source of joy and happiness! We love you so much, from Mommy and Daddy (Dick & Maricar Guintu).

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

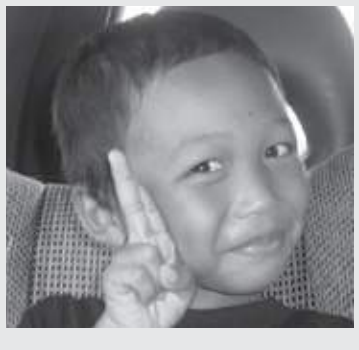
Happy birthday greetings go out to Nadia Paige San Nicolas Teregeyo, who is celebrating her first birthday. We love you. Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings going out to Martin S.N. Delacruz, who is celebrating his birthday today, Oct. 30, 2010. May you have the best blast on your special day and many more to come! Blessings coming from your families, friends, and the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger!

Happy birthday Tyller Josh Ngewakl! May the Lord richly bless you! Love, your grandparents, mommy and Caucus, brothers, sister, cousins, aunties, and uncles.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Birthday greetings for Jian Carlo's 7th birthday on Oct. 31, 2010. Greetings coming from Papa, Mama and Carl.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings going out to Martin S.N. Dela Cruz, who is celebrating his birthday today, Oct. 30, 2010. May you have the best blast on your special day and many more to come! Blessings coming from your families, friends, and the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger!

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REVIEW OF COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION'S WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

DOCKET 09-2

AMENDED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT at 1:00 p.m. on November 16, 2009, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission *[Commission]* will conduct a public hearing and regulatory workshop at the Senate Chamber in the Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capitol Hill to receive evidence, argument, discussion and public comment on the following regulatory matters concerning the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation *[CUC]* and on such other regulatory matters as may arise. For the convenience of the public, a second public hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 18, 2009 at the Chamber of Commerce conference room, which is located on the first floor of the Family Building, Garapan Street, Garapan.

1. **FY10 CUC water and wastewater rate increases.**

The Commission will examine whether it would be prudent and necessary to increase CUC's water and wastewater rates effective December 1, 2009. This examination will occur within the context of the following recent events: a] By order dated June 20, 2009, the Commission directed CUC to increase its wastewater rates by 173.4% in two equal phases - effective July 1, 2009 and September 4, 2009. CUC supported this rate increase and cautioned the Commission that failure to implement the increase would materially impair its ability to comply with its duties under the Federal Stipulated Order *[Federal Order]* dated March 11, 2009, in *USA v. CUC and CNMI*. Nevertheless, CUC failed to implement the wastewater rate increase. b] The Federal Order, as modified by EPA, directed CUC on or before October 1, 2008 to prepare and submit for Federal approval an interim financial plan, which would, in part, establish its need for rate relief during each of the next three years in order to comply with federal requirements for the restoration of its water and wastewater systems. On or about September 26, 2009, CUC filed an interim financial plan for federal review and approval. Federal authorities have determined that the plan does not satisfy the Federal Order's requirements, which are material to the Commission's determination of CUC's need for additional rate relief in the current fiscal year *[FY10]*. c] CUC has failed to provide the Commission with material financial information, which is necessary for the Commission's regulatory consultant *[Georgetown]* to accurately quantify CUC's need for additional water and wastewater rate relief in FY10. d] By initial report dated October 21, 2009, Georgetown advises that based upon available information, *additional* water rate relief of 51% and *additional* wastewater rate relief of 184% in FY10 would be necessary to enable CUC to meet the requirements of the Federal Order. Georgetown cautions, however, that these estimates are subject to revision, if and when, CUC provides essential delinquent financial information and further when a federally approved interim financial plan has been crafted and adopted. A follow-up Georgetown report will be filed with the Commission on November 4, 2009. e] By rate order dated September 3, 2009, the Commission found that substantial inefficiencies in CUC's billing and collection system and in its service rules cause unreasonable expenses and lost revenues, which if corrected would reduce the need for increases to CUC's water and wastewater rates. CUC was directed to immediately commence an assessment of these inefficiencies. The Commission awaits a status report from CUC on the status of this assessment.

2. **Water and wastewater lifeline rates.**

Georgetown recommends in its October 22, 2009 summary report that in the event the Commission decides to implement additional FY10 water and wastewater rate increases effective December 1, 2009, interim lifeline rates should also be established effective December 1, 2009 for CUC's low income water and wastewater customers. The details of these lifeline rates will be contained in Georgetown's November 4, 2009 supplemental filing.

3. **Synchronization of Commission's regulatory activities with Federal Order.**

By order dated September 2, 2009, the Commission directed Georgetown to review CUC's interim financial plan, as required by the Federal Order and: 1. recommend a process by which the Commission should examine CUC's need for rate relief during the three year term of the interim plan; 2. identify material deficiencies in the interim plan; and 3. recommend essential components in CUC's financial management plan, as required by the Federal Order, which will be necessary to enable CUC to comply with the Federal Order. Federal authorities have requested the Commission's input on these matters toward the objective of synchronizing Commission and federal regulatory activities related to the Federal Order. At the hearing, the Commission will review Georgetown's report on this matter, which will be filed on November 4, 2009.

COPIES OF THE March 11, 2009 Federal Order, CUC's September 26, 2009 interim financial plan and Georgetown's October 22, 2009 summary letter are incorporated herein by reference and are available for public inspection at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website [*www.saipanchamber.com*] under its *Public Utilities* tab. Georgetown's subsequent November 4, 2009 reports, as discussed herein, will also be posted on the Chamber website for public inspection and will also be available for public inspection at the Chamber's office.

THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THE PUBLIC'S ATTENDANCE at the November 16 and 18, 2009 public hearings and will welcome public comments at the conclusion of the hearings. Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) should on or before November 9, 2009 file with the Commission at the Chamber's office an application and offer of proof in accordance with §8409(j) and Commission Procedural Rule 11(c). Subsequent to the public hearings, the Commission will conduct a special business meeting at 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2009 at the Chamber's office to consider and make decisions regarding matters considered a the public hearing. Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from Commissioner Kyle Calabrese at 670-233-7150.

YoungStyle

Are texting and Facebook worse for teens than TV?

By BETH J. HARPAZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—Let's face it: Teenagers spend hours texting, socializing on Facebook and playing video games. And it's driving their parents nuts.

Sure, there are real dangers associated with all this screen time—everything from cyberbullying to couch-potato obesity. Not to mention driving while texting, shortened attention spans and Internet porn.

But many of today's parents spent hours as kids sitting in front of screens too—only they were TV screens.

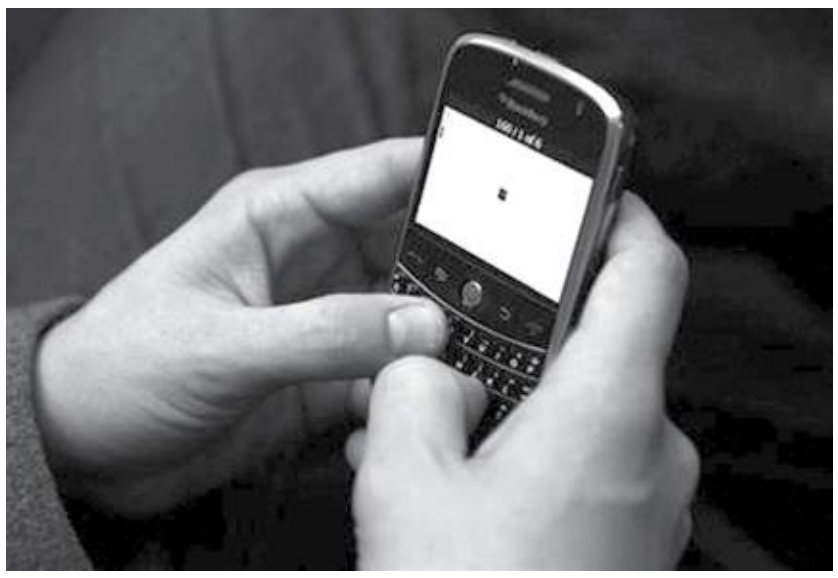
Which raises an interesting question: Is Facebook really worse for teenagers' brains than the mindless reruns of "Gilligan's Island" and "The Brady Bunch" that their parents consumed growing up?

Douglas Gentile, a child psychologist and associate professor at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, who studies the effects of media on children, says texting, Facebook and video games are not inherently bad. Nor are they inherently better or worse than watching TV, although they do pose different risks, such as cyberbullying.

But research has shown that the more time kids spend in front of screens—whether it's TV or instant-messaging—the worse their school performance. "That doesn't mean it's true for every kid, but it makes sense, that for every hour a kid is playing video games, it's an hour that they're not doing homework or reading or exploring or creating," he said.

Gentile calls this the "displacement hypothesis. If screen time is displacing doing their homework, that's bad. But if their homework is done, well, so what?"

Gentile, who admits that his own teenager crossed the "9,000 texts in one month barrier" last summer, acknowledged that parents are struggling to adjust to a world in which kids would rather look at words on a cell phone screen than have a conversation.



AP

This Feb. 11, 2009 file photo shows an owner beginning to write a text message on his cell phone in Los Angeles. The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project said in October that 75 percent of teens have a cell phone and that a typical teen sends about 50 texts a day.

"The older generation, it's not their culture," he said. "There is a resistance to it."

Watching TV as a family, as mindless as that experience can be, is now regarded with nostalgia by parents. If your kid is sitting in the living room watching "American Idol," you can plop on the sofa with them, and "it's a shared experience," Gentile said. But if they're texting or video-chatting with a friend from school, "it's a private experience. It's like they're whispering secrets. And we find it rude."

Patti Rowlson, a mother of two in Everson, Wash., says this "has been a topic of discussion in our house for years now." She and her husband started out limiting TV time when their kids were little, but "then technology crept in. Cell phones, laptop computers, iPods with Wi-Fi. We, as parents, were no longer in control of screen time because we could not even tell when they were using it."

Recounting a struggle that will sound familiar to many parents, Rowlson said that at first, she and her husband imposed limits on tech use.

"There were battles and even groundings," along with the confiscation of iPods, she said. "We were constantly policing and the kids were constantly getting in trouble. We were trying to fight for the old ways, and it was causing a lot of stress and tension in the family. It was ridiculous. So we loosened up. And it's made everybody happier. We were fighting something that you can't hold back. It's how they communicate with their peers."

What's been the result? Two good kids, she said. "In the end I'm not sure if having boundaries early on helped them or made no difference at all."

Ron Neal, who lives in West L.A., has a teenage daughter who is "tech-driven and passionate about it. ... I don't know how it's going to play out, but I don't have this fear and dread about it."

Neal, who admits to watching a lot of "Gilligan's Island" growing up, added: "We had our minds numbed by TV, and maybe they're looking at useless things on the Internet or YouTube, but I also think they're developing a lot of skills through this technology that we could never comprehend. For my daughter, when she is home, she does have everything going - the TV, the computer, communicating with friends, and doing the homework at the same time."

He admits, though, that there are some frightening aspects to the dependence today's teenagers have on technology. "They are so emotionally connected to being tied in with their friends 24 hours a day, if they get a text, they feel obligated to respond in seconds," he said. He recalled a group of girls showing up for a birthday party at a restaurant, and "everyone of them had their head down, texting."

The explosion in teen screen time is well-documented. A recent Associated Press-mtvU poll found that one-third of college students use computers, cell phones or gaming consoles for six or more hours daily. A Kaiser Family Foundation study published in January found that total media use among 8- to 18-year-olds, including TV, music, computers, video games, print and movies has increased from six hours, 21 minutes daily in 2004 to seven hours, 38 minutes in 2009.

"Try waking a teenager in the morning and the odds are good that you'll find a cell phone tucked under their pillow," the Kaiser report said.

The Kaiser study also found that the more time kids spend with media, the lower their grades and levels of personal contentment are.

Gentile said the impact of screen time on school work can be mitigated by what he calls "protective factors." Those might include good teachers and a high-performing school, love of reading, coming from a family where education is valued, and exposure to experiences that are culturally and intellectually enriching. "If you had all these protective factors," said Gentile, "then that one little risk factor (screen time), who cares?"

He added that surprisingly, the amount of time kids spend watching TV has not declined precipitously with the popularity of computers and gaming, but "they don't pay nearly the attention (to TV) that they used to." The TV might be on, but "they're also instant-messaging, they're on Facebook, they're texting."

One thing parents should worry about, Gentile said, is the way electronic devices encourage multitasking.

"Multitasking is not really good for anyone," he said. "Your reflexes speed up, you're quicker to look over your shoulder and notice little noises or lights. This is not what they need when they get to the classroom and you're supposed to ignore the kid next to you. Scanning to see when the next message comes, this may not be good for kids. The more distractions you have, the worse your performance is." Getting kids to turn off their phones, iPods, and computers in order to concentrate on homework and reading, he said, "I think that's a fight worth having."

Bottom line: Never mind that your kid is spending two hours on Facebook each night. As long as they do their homework without texting in between math problems, it's probably no better or worse than the hours you spent watching "Star Trek."

Taylor Swift tells kids: Read for a better life

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Studying hard can bring sweet rewards, like screaming "We love you!" to Taylor Swift from seats that match the color of Clifford the Big Red Dog.

The Grammy Award-winning superstar stopped by the headquarters of Scholastic Inc. on Wednesday and chatted and performed at the publisher's downstairs auditorium, where about 200 grade-schoolers and middle-schoolers, most of them girls, had received a break from class to see Swift talk about reading and writing. The children had been selected by their schools because of improvement in their reading scores.

"I think that smart kids are the coolest kids," Swift, wearing a dark-blue cotton dress with red and white flowers and two-tone high heel shoes, said to much delight as she was interviewed on stage by "America's Got Talent" host Nick Cannon.

The 20-year-old singer-songwriter, who has been busy promoting her new CD, "Speak Now," shared songwriting tips (imagine you're writing a letter, she advised), childhood reading memories and repeated plugs for books as a path to a better life.

"(Without books) You can let little things pass you by, little details," she said. "Like, say you're driving down the road and there's just this really beautiful autumn tree and it has these gorgeous orange leaves. You might just let that pass you by if you have never read books that describe how beautiful they are, from somebody else's perspective."

Swift did more than talk. She sang a few lines from one of her favorite songs, Faith Hill's "This Kiss," and was joined by her band at the end to perform her new single, "Mine."

The children made their own music, spontaneously singing along when Swift's "You Belong With Me" was played on the house sound system before she arrived.

Swift, a native of Wyomissing, Pa., whose first record came out when she was 16, said she had always been a reader and was encouraged by her parents and teachers. She started writing poetry in second grade and by fourth grade had enough courage to enter a poem, "Monster in My Closet," in a national poetry contest. (She didn't win, she says, but she did place.) Studying "Romeo and Juliet" in ninth grade helped inspire her Top 10 single "Love Story."

AP

Singer Taylor Swift performs during the "Read Now with Taylor Swift" event for New York City school students, sponsored by Scholastic, Inc., in New York, Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

She also said she loved "Sesame Street" books growing up and was inspired by the stories of Dr. Seuss because of their rhymes.

"A lot of people who gravitate toward music are really, really sort of drawn to poetry because the words all have a rhythm and it comes together just right," she said. "I love poetry, because if you get it right, if you put the right rhymes at the right ends of the sentences, you can almost make words bounce off a page."

Responding to student questions, Swift said she enjoyed authors who had a "a very conversational style to their writing" and was drawn most to books that dramatized history, perhaps about a "girl during the Revolutionary War." She said reading made her a better songwriter because it helps you with "understanding metaphors" and "how to paint a picture with a song."

Asked how to encourage children who don't like to read, she suggested not taking on too much, perhaps starting with a short story or even a newspaper.

"It doesn't have to be a big, thick, long book," she said. "You don't have to pick up something that looks scary."

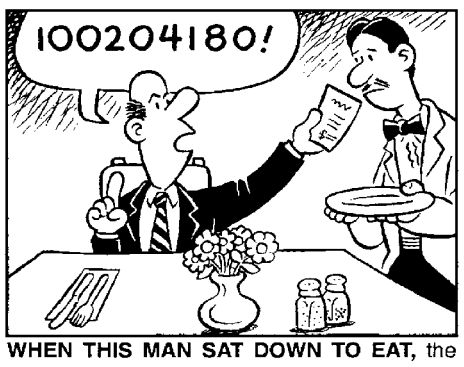
On stage, Swift cited Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" as a favorite. Interviewed briefly at a post-show reception, Swift said she loved the novel, set in the South in the 1950s, because of how it was narrated from a child's point of view.

"The main character didn't exactly know what was going on, but the reader does," she said. "It's all portrayed in an interesting way, all the huge issues in the book, like civil right, come from a children's perspective. It's an interesting way to tell a story."

Swift is part of a new Scholastic promotional campaign, "You are What You Read," for which authors, celebrities and public figures from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton to "Percy Jackson" novelist Rick Riordan choose favorite books. Swift's picks include E.B. White's "Charlotte's Web" and Elizabeth Gilbert's memoir on divorce and recovery, "Eat, Pray, Love," not a surprising choice for a songwriter known for her romantic laments and explorations.

Swift said during the reception that she was enjoying Gilbert's most recent book, "Committed," in which the author marries the Brazilian man she met in "Eat, Pray, Love."

"Listening to her talk at seminars, especially one that I YouTubed, where she was talking about trying to create her followup project, it made me cry," Swift said. "It was so inspirational."



WHEN THIS MAN SAT DOWN TO EAT, the waiter, by mistake, gave him someone else's check. What did the man say to the waiter?

Answer: "I ought naught to owe for I ate nothing."

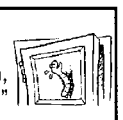
Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

Illustrated by David Coulson

A CREEPY CRAWLY QUESTION!

"A little bug, alert and alive, climbed up a door ninety inches and five.
If every day it climbed up eleven, and every night it dropped back seven,
How many days, without a stop, did the little bug travel to reach the top?"



Answer: 22 days

YOUR "NOONTIME" PUZZLE BREAK! Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in Grid B.

1. Fit together in a stack.
2. To get dirty.
3. A formal occasion.
4. A sharp edge.

GRID A

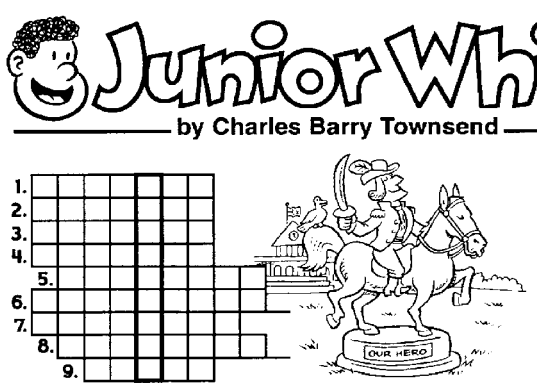
N			
	O		
		O	
			N

GRID B

T			
	I		
		M	
			E

1. Our counting system.
2. A missile shelter.
3. To win easily.
4. A joint.

Answers: 1. Nest-tens. 2. Soil-silo. 3. Prom-romp. 4. Keen-knee.



A "CAPITAL" CHALLENGE!

In our puzzle grid, there is room to list nine state capitals. Below are the names of the states. Can you furnish their capitals?

1. Maine
2. New Mexico
3. North Carolina
4. Arizona
5. Connecticut
6. Maryland
7. North Dakota
8. Ohio
9. Oregon

There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly name the nine state capitals, the letters in this frame, top to bottom, will spell out the name of a 10th state capital.

Answers: 1. Augusta. 2. Santa Fe. 3. Raleigh. 4. Phoenix. 5. Hartford. 6. Annapolis. 7. Bismarck. 8. Columbus. 9. Salem. The state capital's name in the dark frame is St. Paul (Minnesota).

Do home flea remedies work?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My little dog "Gellie" gets fleas quite often. A while ago in your column a reader suggested washing the dog with Dawn dish detergent and soaking her collar in something. Do you know what that something is? Also, how often should you bathe a dog?—Frances M., Batavia, N.Y.

DEAR FRANCES: Unfortunately I don't have the original column right at hand, but I did a little research for you on home remedies for getting rid of these pesky biters. The website www.stopthefleas.com is the source of the dish detergent remedy: specifically, bathing your pet in lemon-scented Dawn liquid soap. It supposedly both kills and repels fleas.

It's important to note, however, that using dish detergents or hand soaps to bathe your pet will dry out their skin. This can lead to other problems, including rashes and sores, increased allergies, and in general, a lot of discomfort for your pet—as well as making its skin more susceptible to future flea infestation. I would recommend not using this method more than once a month, or even once every two or three months. And I'd encourage you to look for pet-friendly, natural flea-repellent soaps, which are available at pet stores.

Home remedies are probably not as fast or effective as chemical remedies, and you'll need to employ other methods to discourage fleas, including vacuuming the house at least weekly. Sprinkle a little Borax in front of the doors or plant pennyroyal near your home's entry points. Brush your pet daily, especially if she goes outside at all, to remove dirt or grass that fleas can ride in on and dislodge flea eggs.

■ ■ ■

Have a question about your pet? Contact Sam at ask@pawscorner.com., or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was American author, producer, screenwriter and director Michael Crichton who made the following sage observation: "Whenever you hear the consensus of scientists agrees on something or other, reach for your wallet, because you're being had."

■ Statistics show that more babies are born in September than in any other month of the year.

■ Talk about bad luck: In May of 2009, two thieves broke into a jewelry store in Milwaukee, bagged up their loot and tried to make their getaway. On the way out of the looted store, they were confronted by two more thieves, who took the ill-gotten gains. No one ended up profiting from the crime, however; all four were arrested.

■ According to an estimate by the United Nations, there are more than 3 million shipwrecks on the ocean floor.

■ You may have heard of the turducken—a chicken stuffed into a duck stuffed into a turkey—but you probably didn't know that a chef in the United Kingdom took the idea of nested fowl several steps further. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall stuffed a woodcock inside a pigeon, inside a partridge, inside a pheasant, inside a chicken, inside a guineafowl, inside a mallard, inside a duck, inside a goose, inside a turkey. No word on how the 10-layer dish was carved for serving.

■ If you're not the sort of person who makes the bed every day, here's some good news for you: Researchers in the United Kingdom have found that unmade beds are less likely to harbor dust mites, a common cause of asthma and allergic symptoms.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things." — Rene Descartes

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MAGIC MAZE ● WORDS FOUND ON CEREAL BOXES

E A X U R P M J G D A X V S Q
N K I F D A X V T Q O M J H F
C A M A R S H M A L L O W Y W
U R P N S L R S J H F D B Z X
V T R Q O T M E A K I H H F D
B S Z Y W V I L T T R C Q O C
N L E K S I O B N T P N H H L
F D C K T N A B A R I U A Z O
C O C O A X D E T S O R F W O
V A U R O L H P S R M C C F P
J Q G O N W F M K S J I H F S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bits, Cocoa, Corn, Critters, Crunch, Flakes, Frosted, Granola, Jacks, Loops, Marshmallow, Oats, Pebbles, Puffs, Wheat

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	–		x		16
x		+		÷	
	÷		+		10
–		x		+	
	–		x		18
17		25		10	

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 9

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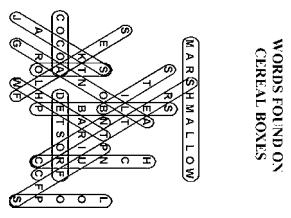
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

	10		25	17
18	9	x	5	– 7
	+		x	–
10	8	+	3	÷ 6
	÷		+	x
16	8	x	2	– 4

Slow-cook apple sauce is tasty fall treat

It wasn't exactly a pretty picture when an unexpected early snowfall blanketed the Twin Cities last fall. We simply weren't ready for cold temps and a whiteout of fall colors.

Since we were feeling and acting noticeably glum in our household, it was a moment to dust off the familiar adage I had repeated to the kids when they were young and life had just turned sour on their hopes and dreams: "OK, you guys, when life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

But we don't grow lemons in Minnesota, so we proceeded to do the next best thing. We rooted through the closet for last winter's mismatched mittens and hats, went out in the backyard to our fledgling, spindly apple tree, picked our last 10 apples from snow-laden branches and collectively mused, "So, when life gives you 10 juicy apples, turn them into applesauce!" And that's exactly what we did.

For a change of pace, we put aside our traditional stovetop recipe and instead sliced and diced all 10 apples and tossed them in the slow cooker with some water, sugar and a dash of cinnamon. It was a success! As the apples sputtered and gurgled to their own rhythm, the sweet and fragrant apple-cinnamon aroma permeated every room of our house. As for life lessons, once we put a positive spin on the situation, we enjoyed cozy indoor time together, and we are no doubt the better for it.

You don't need a "when life gives you lemons" moment to reap the benefits of this yummy and aromatic recipe. Just count up 10 apples, and you're on your way to a special fall treat. Here's what you'll need to turn the apples into 5-6 cups of tasty homemade applesauce:

■ 10 larges apples, peeled, cored and sliced, or cut into chunks
■ 1/2 cup water
■ 1/4 to 1/2 cup sugar
■ 1 teaspoon cinnamon
■ Pinch of nutmeg (optional)

Stir ingredients together in a slow cooker. It should be about 3/4 full. Set on low and cook for about 8 hours. Mash with a potato masher before serving for a smoother texture, if you wish.

Enjoy on hot breakfast cereal, granola, pancakes and waffles in the morning, as a snack in the afternoon, or over vanilla ice cream for dessert after the evening meal.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Celebrating Halloween on Saipan

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The spookiest time of the year is upon us and everybody on the island is on a trick-or-treating mode this weekend.

The annual holiday observed every Oct, 31 features various fun and exciting activities such as trick-or-treating, showing off a whole range of costumes, pumpkin carving or watching scary movies.

Put on your best Halloween costume and take a pick on the different ways you can celebrate the holiday weekend on the island.

■ The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is hosting Halloween Storytime at 10am today in line with the spooky holiday.

■ Mount Carmel School is hosting a Halloween Festival that features a costume contest, parlor games, magician presentation, and a haunted mansion for children. The event will be from 6pm to 9:30pm.

■ Saipan Grand Hotel's Club V will have its 6th Annual Halloween Costume Contest tonight. Prizes include entertainment package, an Android phone, and a weekend getaway for two. Registration before 10:30pm is free; otherwise, registration is $5 per person. Party starts at 9:30am with free chasers while supplies last.

■ Theater enthusiasts who haven't seen Friends of the Arts' *The Darker Side of Broadway* still have the chance to see it tonight at 7pm at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center Theater. The show directed by Paul Dujua features music from *Jekyll and Hyde, Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street,* and *Wicked: A New Musical*. Tickets cost $15 per adult, $12 for Friends of the Arts members, and $10 for students.

■ Aqua Resort Club will have their Trick or Treat Sunday Brunch on Sunday from 11am to 2pm. Come and avail of their sumptuous feast for only $24 for locals. The Sunday Brunch will also feature a Pumpkin Carving Competition and a Best in Costume Competition. Prizes include Sunday Brunch and other gift certificates. For reservations, call 322-1234.

■ The American Memorial Park is having its annual Trunk or Treat at the parking lot tomorrow from 4pm to 7pm. Families are encouraged to bring their costume-wearing children for a grand spooky time. Family-oriented movies will also be shown at the theater throughout Sunday.

The spookiest time of the year is upon us and everybody on the island is on a trick-or-treating mode this weekend.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Kids love Halloween! They get to dress up and get free candies. Even some adults still like to go trick or treating. But everyone can get so caught up in the fun that they might forget some simple safety ideas that could keep everyone out of trouble.

Here are some safety tips from the Department of Public Safety. DPS encourages all to apply these rules to be safe. Let's all work together to give everyone a safe and enjoyable Halloween night and to give our kids some precious Halloween memories that they'll have for life.

ADULTS:

■ When taking your kids to sponsored events, make sure to keep an eye on them at all times.

■ Know the routes your kids will be taking or plan it out for them and ensure that they follow it through.

■ Have your kids travel in groups and have an adult along with them.

■ Set time limits for your kids to return home, and have them call you every hour, especially if they are running late.

■ When buying customs for your kids, make sure that it is fire proof.

- Make sure masks do not obstruct their view or breathing.

- Put some reflective tapes on their front and back.

- Have your kids carry a flashlight or night sticks and teach them to have it visible at all times, especially when vehicles are present.

- Ensure that swords, knives, and similar costume accessories are not hard, do not have sharp edges and should be short, soft and flexible.

■ Encourage your kids not to consume their goodies until you have examined all for choking hazards and that the goodies have not been tampered with.

CHILDREN:

■ Be sure that you travel in groups or accompanied by an adult when "Trick or Treating."

■ Be sure that an adult accompanies you to the door of every home you approach.

■ Do not enter homes without permission from your parents or the adult accompanying you.

■ Do not approach a vehicle unless accompanied by your parents or an adult.

■ Do not approach a home that is not well lit both inside and outside.

■ Stay alert for suspicious incidents and report them to your parents, guardians and/or the proper authority.

■ Obey all rules and curfew times that your parents, guardians have set for you and be sure to call them immediately if you are running late.

■ Look both ways before crossing a street and do not play on the roadway.

■ Use your flashlight or carry a bright night stick around at all times.

■ Do not eat your goodies until an adult or your parents or guardians have examined them for choking hazards. Do not eat unwrapped goodies or home-made treats.

MOTORISTS:

■ Stay alert for trick or treaters on our streets, most especially when driving through poorly lighted areas.

■ Sound your horn to alert trick or treaters of your presence.

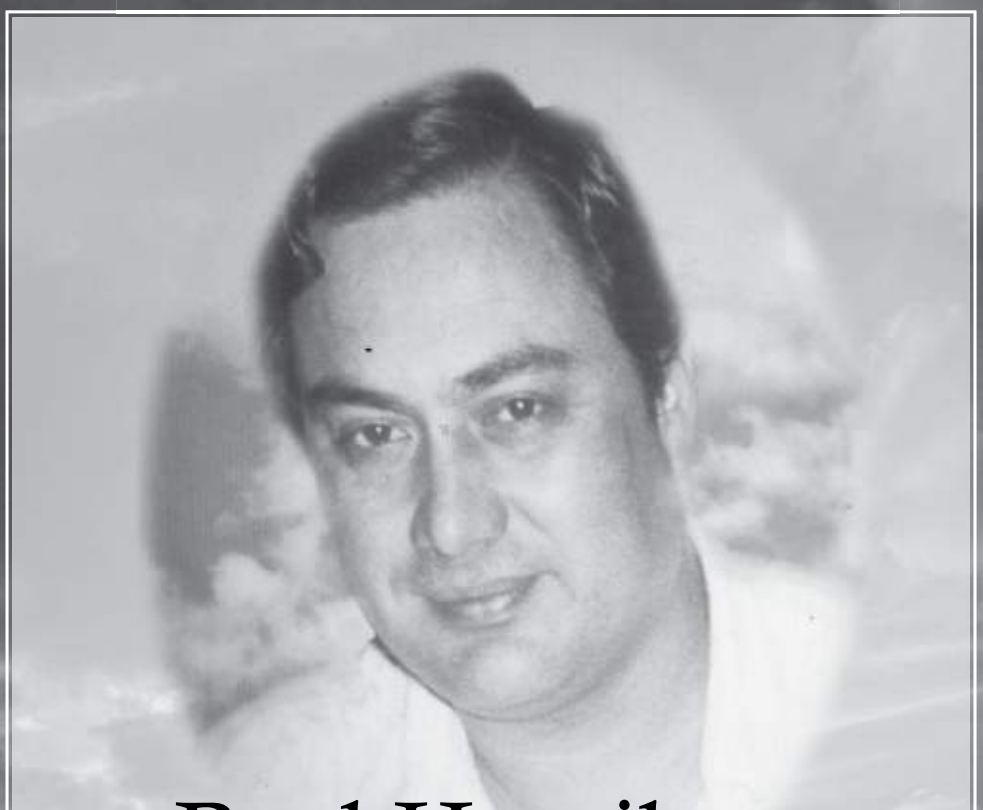
■ Buckle up. Use safety belts at all times.

■ Obey all streets signs and rules of the road.

■ Do not speed in villages.

Have a safe, fun and memorable Halloween!

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Paul Hamilton

We the family humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers of our dearly beloved husband and father unto eternal life

Daily Mass will be offered every morning beginning on Sunday, October 31, 2010 to November 8, 2010 at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

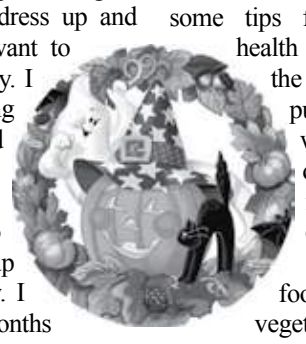
The Family

Five healthy tips to enjoy your treat without playing tricks on your teeth

By LORI I. SERNA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Lori Serna, , RDH, MEd., is a dental hygienist who works with the Saipan's SDA dental clinic on improving dental care and well as awareness throughout the CNMI

October is a special month for me for two reasons. National Dental Hygiene month is celebrated in October but let's face it, the rest of the country is busy looking forward to celebrating one of my favorite if not my favorite pseudo holiday: Halloween! I love Halloween, in my opinion it is the one time of the year that everyone has an opportunity to be a child once again and give into the urge to dress up and be anyone you want to be for just one day. I have been dressing up for years and about three years ago I had the pleasure of coming to work dressed up as a cow, literally. I was about eight months pregnant and so I had the belly to go with the costume.



As a dental professional what concerns me is the amount of candy that is consumed and handed out at parties or local events. Don't get me wrong I am not going to "rain on any parades," after all I did just say it is one of my favorite holidays. However I do want to share some tips for better dental health so you can enjoy the goodies without putting your teeth as well as your children's teeth at risk for those nasty cavities.

1. Eat a variety of food. Choose fruits, vegetables, and healthy protein such as lean meats as well as nuts and low fat cheeses.

2. Limit the number of snacks that you eat. Each time you eat food that contains sugars, the teeth are attacked by acids for 20 minutes or more. This increases the chances of getting a cavity.

3. When you snack, choose wisely. If you do snack, choose nutritious foods, such as cheese, raw vegetables, plain yogurt, or a piece of fruit.

4. Eat sweets with meals. Foods that are eaten as part of a meal cause less harm. More saliva is released during a meal, which helps wash foods from the mouth and helps lessen the effects of the acids on your teeth.

5. Brush twice a day and floss once.

By following these simple tips you can prevent cavities as well as increase your oral health year round. Now get out there and have some fun. Happy "Trick-or-Treating."

Jury convicts Smith's psychiatrist, boyfriend

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury on Thursday convicted Anna Nicole Smith's psychiatrist and boyfriend of conspiring to use false names to obtain prescription drugs for the former Playboy model and reality TV star but acquitted the doctor who prescribed a plethora of drugs for her.

Prosecutors contended during the nine-week trial that the defendants were dazzled by Smith's glamor and filled her demands for prescription drugs to protect their insider status in her personal life and her celebrity world.

The jury was asked to decide if the three defendants were trying to relieve Smith's emotional and physical pain or were feeding her addiction to prescription drugs.

AP

Anna Nicole Smith's former boyfriend, lawyer Howard K. Stern, leaves court after he was found guilty on two counts in the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy trial in Los Angeles on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010.

Smith eventually died of an accidental drug overdose in Florida in 2007, but the defendants were not charged in her death.

Dr. Sandeep Kapoor said he felt "shellshocked and exhilarated" about being acquitted.

"This is not just a victory for me, but for patients everywhere who suffer chronic pain," an emotional Kapoor said outside the courthouse.

His lawyer Ellyn Garofalo said it also was a victory in some ways for Smith.

"The jury found she was not an addict," Garofalo said.

The only conviction against Smith's boyfriend-lawyer Howard K. Stern was for giving false names and acting by fraud to obtain prescriptions. He was acquitted of seven other charges.

As he left the courthouse, Stern told reporters, "Everything relating to the appropriateness of the medication, I was acquitted of."

He said the lone conviction came for trying to protect Smith's privacy.

Along with conspiracy, psychiatrist Khristine Eroshevich was convicted of unlawfully prescribing Vicodin by fraud. The jury deadlocked on several counts against her.

'Tron' appetizer: Fans get early look at new film

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—"Tron" fans worldwide are being invited to step into the Grid of the anticipated sequel, "Tron: Legacy."

Walt Disney Pictures is hosting "Tron Night" on Thursday, where fans in 48 countries can see 23 minutes of footage in IMAX 3-D for free. Disney employees also got an early look at the film Thursday at screenings in Burbank.

Selected scenes from the first half of the film take viewers into an updated, three-dimensional version of the digital world that dazzled moviegoers in the 1982 original.

The footage opens with Sam Flynn, played by Garrett Hedlund, accidentally discovering the high-tech landscape where his father disappeared decades earlier.

One moment Flynn is sitting at his dad's dusty old computer, and the next he is a prisoner aboard a spaceship soaring through a dark, geometric world where people wear illuminated suits and one wrong move can be fatal. He's thrown into a room where four women emerge to outfit him with his own body-hugging light suit and "identity disc."

"What am I supposed to do?" Flynn asks.

"Survive," one woman replies.

With that, he's dropped into a high-stakes Frisbee-type battle where the loser is shattered into bits.

Another scene shows the iconic light cycles updated from the original film and a light-up dune buggy that's able to travel off the Grid and onto a rocky landscape, where Flynn's father, played by Jeff Bridges, appears to be meditating and setting off his own glow.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Bieber to debut music video during World Series

NEW YORK (AP)—Game 3 of the World Series will be targeted to teenyboppers, thanks to Justin Bieber. Major League Baseball says Bieber will debut the music video for his song "Never Say Never" on Saturday during Game 3's pre-show. The best-of-seven series is between the Texas Rangers and the San Francisco Giants. The Giants won the first two games of the series in San Francisco. Game 3 will take place in Arlington, Texas. Former "American Idol" champion Kelly Clarkson will sing the national anthem in her home state. The 16-year-old Bieber sports gear from both teams in the "Never Say Never" clip, which was shot at Angels Stadium in Anaheim, Calif. The song is from the platinum-selling singing sensation's upcoming acoustic CD, due out on Nov. 23.

Book of Gabriel Garcia Marquez speeches released

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The new compilation of speeches by Gabriel Garcia Marquez is titled, of course, "I Didn't Come Here to Make a Speech." The title is true to the spirit of absurdity that characterizes "magical realism," the literary style the Colombian-born Garcia Marquez pioneered. The book starts with a 1944 speech he made at a high school graduation, and includes his 1982 Nobel Literature Prize acceptance speech. Editor Cristobal Pera said the speeches show how Garcia Marquez evolved as a writer and thinker. The speeches touch on politics, literature and other topics. Garcia Marquez did not attend Thursday's presentation of the book, but Pera said he "is doing very well for a man of 83 who has overcome cancer."

Garth Brooks to play benefit for Nashville flood

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—County music stars Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood said Thursday they will play a concert in December to benefit flood relief in middle Tennessee. Brooks made the announcement during a news conference Thursday morning at the state capital that was attended by Gov. Phil Bredesen, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and a host of other politicians. Brooks said making the decision was easy: "I think we decided to do it the day we saw the flood." He formally retired about a decade ago to spend more time with his children and Yearwood. But he began performing at the Wynn Resort in Las Vegas last December, and expects to do 15 weeks of shows a year at least until his youngest daughter graduates from high school. The benefit will be held Dec. 17 at Bridgestone Arena and tickets will go for $25. Information on how to buy tickets will be released Nov. 3.

Video appearing to show 1928 cell phone goes viral

NEW YORK (AP)—Charlie Chaplin's status as an extraordinary talent was already known. A new Web video would have him be a visionary, too. A video from a bonus feature of the DVD to Chaplin's 1928 film "The Circus" shows a woman talking into something she's holding up to her ear. It appears to be a mobile phone, although they weren't invented until the 1970s. It's likely the actor is holding a hearing aid, but that hasn't stopped the video from amassing more than two million views on YouTube. The clip was discovered and uploaded by Irish filmmaker George Clarke. He claimed the person is a time traveler and that "you just can't explain it."

HBO's 'Big Love' to conclude after upcoming season

NEW YORK (AP)—HBO says it's wrapping up its drama "Big Love" after the upcoming fifth season. The series deals with a Salt Lake City businessman and his three wives. The network said Thursday that it will return for a final season Jan. 16. "Big Love" stars Bill Paxton as busy husband Bill Henrickson. Jeanne Tripplehorn, Chloe Sevigny and Ginnifer Goodwin play his wives, Barb, Nicki and Margene.

Michael Jackson nephew to star in LA 'Sisterella'

NEW YORK (AP)—One of Michael Jackson's nephews will star alongside pop singer Taylor Dayne in the Los Angeles production of "Sisterella" next spring. T.J. Jackson is a son of Michael Jackson's brother Tito. Producers say he'll play the role of Prince Jean Luc in the Larry Hart-written musical. The part originally was developed for the King of Pop. The musical is set in turn-of-the-century New York. It tells the story of a wicked stepmother who tries to steal the fortune her late husband left to his daughter. Dayne will play the stepmother, Dahlia. Dayne is most famous for 1980s and '90s hits including "Tell It To My Heart" and "Love Will Lead You Back." Jerry Greenberg and Frank Dileo will produce the musical, which first debuted in Los Angeles at the Pasadena Playhouse in 1996. Michael Jackson was the executive producer.

Randy Quaid pursues refugee claim in Canada

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP)—Actor Randy Quaid says a group of Hollywood bankers, lawyers and executives is out to ruin him as he continues to seek refugee status in Canada following his arrest on U.S. warrants. Quaid made the comments Thursday after he attended an immigration hearing in Vancouver, British Columbia, to determine if he would be admissible as a refugee in Canada. Quaid and his wife were arrested in Vancouver last week and jailed on outstanding U.S. warrants related to vandalism charges. The Quaids are wanted in Santa Barbara, California, where they missed a court hearing last week on felony vandalism charges. Randy Quaid and his wife, Evi, appeared at their first immigration hearing last week and requested refugee status based on their belief that they were being persecuted by "Hollywood star whackers" and that their lives were in danger.

Tween takes stock of life and wants to make changes

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I am a 12-year-old girl who is not happy with who I am. When I was younger I always imagined what I'd be like when I was older—and this is not who I want to be.

I am the girl everyone wants to date. I have lost people close to me lately and made mistakes I wish I could take back. I love God and the fact that He gave me life, but I don't like myself. People treat me like I have no feelings sometimes, and I'm tired of drama that isn't worth my time. I want to change who I am to who I really want to be.

Do you have any tips on how to make myself the person I want to be, and not the person everyone else wants?

WHO AM I? VALRICO, FLA.

DEAR WHO AM I?: You are an intelligent young lady who has recognized that she must make changes if she wants to achieve her goals. Good for you.

At 12, you're not frozen into any role. There is time to change your image. While it may be flattering to be someone "everyone wants to date," you are not obligated to date anyone. Concentrate on improving your grades, becoming active in sports, developing your interests and a stronger relationship with your church. If you do, you will form different kinds of relationships that will enable you to become the person you want to be. I have no doubt that you'll accomplish whatever you set your mind to because you have already started.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a friendly, 23-year-old woman who likes to make new friends all the time. Recently, though, I have had a few "bumps" and I'm not sure if I may be doing something wrong.

I tried to befriend one girl who was an acquaintance from high school. I found her on Facebook and sent her a message. She replied that she was glad for the surprise e-mail. I sent her a reply, but she never returned one. I also tried to add her as a friend, but she declined.

Then there's the girl who is the sister of one of my male friends. I found her on Facebook, too, and sent her an e-mail. It was the same story. I got a friendly reply—then nothing.

I met the third girl online at a different friend-type site. She said she was "so glad I messaged her" and the same scenario repeated. I'm confused. Am I making some mistake or just picking the wrong people to befriend?

EVERYONE'S PAL, EUGENE, ORE.

DEAR PAL: What matters in life isn't the number of friends one has, but the quality of the friendship. Friendship does not usually happen spontaneously, it takes time and common interests among acquaintances to build.

Instead of trying to make friends all the time, concentrate on trying to nurture relationships more slowly on common interest sites. The approach you have chosen may strike others as a little too aggressive. Also, stop depending on online sites and venture into the real world, too.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have a minor disagreement about the definition of a bachelor. The dictionary defines a bachelor as "an unmarried man." My husband thinks the definition should include "men who have never been married, widowed or divorced."

I think a bachelor is an unmarried man, regardless of the reason he's currently unmarried. He could be divorced or widowed and be a bachelor, as long as his current status is without a companion. What do you say?

AN INQUIRING COUPLE IN GEORGIA

DEAR COUPLE: I'm inclined to side with your husband on this one. A man who has been divorced is a divorced man; a man who has lost his wife is a widower; and a man who has never been to the altar by the age of 50 is not only a bachelor—but a confirmed bachelor.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I'M A GENIUS. I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW SMART I AM.
I'VE GOT MORE BRAINS THAN I KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH.
SO I'VE NOTICED.
WOO HOO HOO
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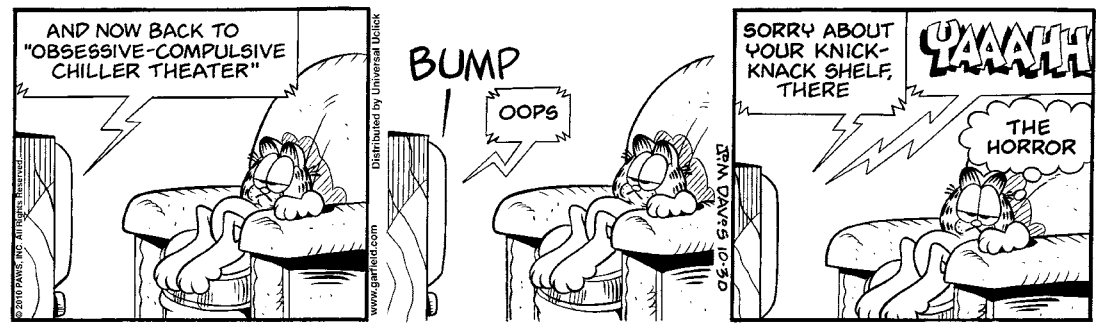
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I'VE CALLED THIS FAMILY MEETING TO TALK ABOUT HALLOWEEN.
WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT ALL WEEK. WHAT'S LEFT TO DISCUSS?
WELL, WE'VE GOT THIS PARTY NOW. AND I REALLY WANT TO SHOW THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHAT WE'VE GOT. TWO WORDS: FAMILY COSTUME.
NO! I ALREADY HAVE THE HAIR GEL FOR MY BIEBER COSTUME!
AND I'VE GOT MY PRINCESS NINJA WITCH OUTFIT ALL READY!
JUST FOR THE PARTY! WE'LL CHANGE BEFORE WE GO TRICK-OR-TREATING.
FINE. BUT IT HAS TO BE SOMETHING REALLY COOL.
OH. THERE'S NOTHING COOLER THAN A KEANU REEVES RETROSPECTIVE.
HELLO, MR. ANDERSON.
10-30
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

GET READY, JACK.
OKAY, MOLLY.
TRICK OR TREAT! SMELL MY FEET! GIVE ME SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT!
LISTEN HERE. KISS MY REAR. YOU WON'T GET NO CANDY HERE.
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www.gocomics.com

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

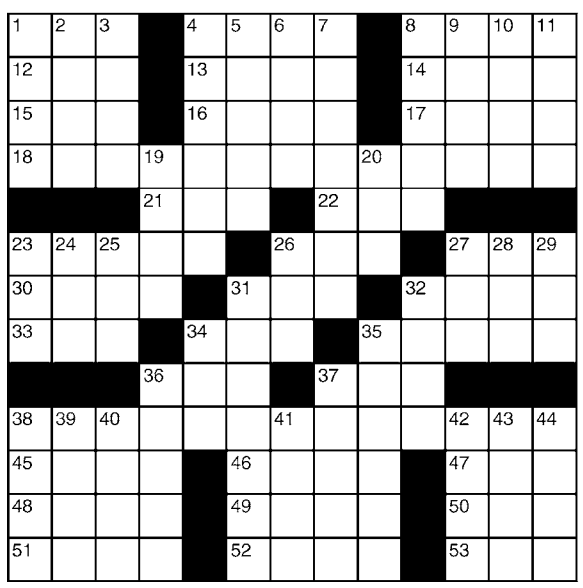
ACROSS
1 Request
4 Existed
8 Caffeine-rich nut
12 Muumuu accessory
13 Make over
14 Grand tale
15 Coffee vessel
16 Greek Mars
17 Crooked
18 Time keepers?
21 "Golly!"
22 Brother of George W.
23 Summer-time episode, often
26 Crafty one
27 Once around
30 Reed instrument
31 Poke
32 Unuttered "Ah, me"
33 English channel
34 Big sandwich, for short
35 In a stupor
36 Astronaut Grissom
37 "— the ramparts ..."
38 Current place?
45 Cruising
46 Concept
47 Rotation duration
48 Perjurer
49 Off-key
50 Card table call
51 Count counterpart
52 Longings
53 Before

DOWN
1 Astringent
2 Antitoxins
3 Stephen or Larry
4 Bold
5 Spooky
6 Paradise
7 Rhinoplasty
8 Skewered entree
9 Oil cartel
10 Nexus
11 Gospels' follow-up
19 Chills and fever
20 Mardi Gras VIP
23 Plagiarize
24 Recede
25 Mythical flier
26 The — Four
27 Claiborne of fashion
28 Census stat
29 Third degree?
31 Show to be reasonable
32 Ganges garment
34 Seek damages
35 Makes lean
36 Deform by twisting
37 Vast expanse
38 Guy
39 One side of the Urals
40 Paraphernalia
41 Between jobs
42 Advantage
43 Hibernation location
44 Force measure

Solution time: 27 mins.

A	B	A	■	J	A	M	■	C	O	U	L	D
O	L	D	■	U	S	E	■	L	I	F	E	R
R	E	D	■	M	Y	T	H	O	L	O	G	Y
T	E	L	■	P	L	A	I	D	■	■	■	■
A	P	E	X	■	U	L	T	■	T	A	T	A
■	■	■	E	L	M	■	S	H	O	G	U	N
A	L	O	N	E	■	■	E	P	O	X	Y	■
K	I	B	I	T	Z	■	D	N	A	■	■	■
A	S	I	A	■	E	V	A	■	Z	E	S	T
■	■	■	P	A	I	N	S	■	N	E	W	■
S	Y	M	B	O	L	O	G	Y	■	V	I	E
P	I	O	U	S	■	L	E	N	■	O	N	E
A	P	I	S	H	■	A	R	C	■	Y	E	T

Yesterday's answer 10-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Morrison, 32; Gavin Rossdale, 45; Harry Hamlin, 59; Henry Winkler, 65

Happy Birthday: Letting your heart rule your head will lead to mistakes. This is a year to take stock of what you have done in the past and how much your experience is worth. Don't let personal matters stop you from moving forward professionally. Base your decisions on what will bring you the best returns. Your numbers are 6, 11, 18, 21, 24, 35, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't look for trouble or you will surely find it. It's best to engage in some down time with people you enjoy and trust. A partnership is likely to develop with someone who shares your interests. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Go where the action is and experience new people and places. You can learn from the activities you take part in and the people with whom you talk. Love is on the rise and, single or not, you will encounter some people who interest you. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Focusing on what you can do at home to make things better will bring far greater returns in the end. Stick up for those close to you and protect the ones you love from being misled by someone selling the impossible. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Make your move, do your own thing but most of all don't procrastinate. Relationships will take on a new flavor if you spice things up or find fun ways to spend time together. Children will highlight your life. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Give more, take less but protect what's yours already. Nothing is perfect but it is attainable if you are fair and share. Once you have made your decision and followed through, it will be time to enjoy the exciting of new beginnings. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Getting angry will be your demise. Think before you react. You will get further ahead if you are diplomatic and willing to compromise to make things work for everyone involved. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): If you are willing to accept what's happening, you will stand a much better chance of making the right personal choices. You have to give the impression you are on top of the world. Everyone wants to associate with someone who is positive and confident. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let emotions dictate what happens. Love is in the picture but, if you allow jealousy or possessiveness to creep in, you will ruin a good time. An idea you have can change the way you do things. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Put your energy, hope and trust in what you do best. An investment will pay off if you stick to your budget and make your move when an opportunity presents itself. Helping someone out will lead to valuable information. ✪✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Let your instincts lead the way. Take note of what everyone around you is doing.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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Knowing who can offer what will be strategic in days to come. Don't let an emotional matter get out of hand. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You can't win if you try to reason with someone who isn't being receptive. Back away and reassess your situation. It may be better to cut your losses and move on. Focus on what you can do to improve your lifestyle. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't stop if you think you can accomplish your goals. It may be the weekend but let your entrepreneurial spirit take over and lead you in a direction that looks personally and professionally promising. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive and impulsive and tend to overreact. You are attracted to the unknown and always find a unique way to do things.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					6	1		8
9				3	5			
	6	1				7		9
					4			
1		5				6		7
			6					
3		8				5	2	
			2	8				3
4		2	9					

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	4	8	6	1	5	9	3	2
5	6	2	8	9	3	1	7	4
9	3	1	2	7	4	6	8	5
3	8	5	9	6	7	4	2	1
2	1	6	4	5	8	3	9	7
4	7	9	1	3	2	8	5	6
8	2	3	5	4	1	7	6	9
1	9	7	3	2	6	5	4	8
6	5	4	7	8	9	2	1	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/29

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HALLOWEEN **Solution: 12 letters**

D	E	R	A	C	S	E	S	U	O	H	K	S	A	M
L	E	M	L	S	Y	P	E	E	R	C	J	C	A	O
E	S	C	U	K	P	N	M	U	T	U	A	K	S	N
A	E	H	O	T	A	I	D	L	C	R	E	U	E	S
V	L	O	H	R	S	I	D	L	V	U	G	I	L	T
E	P	C	G	S	A	O	S	E	P	A	G	K	D	E
S	P	O	E	R	P	T	C	B	R	H	H	L	N	R
H	A	L	F	A	O	M	I	R	B	O	O	L	A	S
S	A	A	R	R	P	T	O	O	L	C	S	Y	C	A
T	W	T	I	C	C	A	R	O	N	K	T	D	A	F
E	Y	E	S	R	O	S	R	D	R	S	C	N	N	E
E	S	T	E	A	R	F	D	E	R	B	K	A	L	T
R	B	I	T	T	N	E	F	A	N	E	R	C	L	Y
T	E	H	N	S	S	K	C	I	R	T	S	G	A	B
S	W	W	I	T	C	H	E	S	N	K	S	S	F	S

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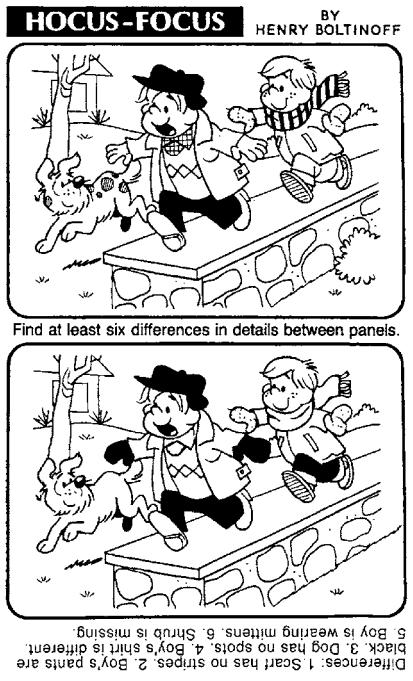
Afraid, Apples, Autumn, Bags, Black, Broom, Candles, Candy, Carve, Chocolate, Coffin, Cold, Costume, Creepy, Dark, Decorations, Doorbell, Dress, Fall, Ghost, Ghoul, Hats, Houses, Leaves, Loot, Makeup, Mask, Monsters, Neighbors, Parents, Party, Popcorn, Sacks, Safety, Scared, Spider, Spooky, Star, Stories, Streets, Sugar, Sweets, Tales, Trick, Webs, White, Witches

Yesterday's Answer: Pumpkin

The **NEW Treasury 9** can be ordered by sending check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com. (contains 130 puzzles, 33 of which are the larger 20 x 20 size)

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Scarf has no stripes. 2. Boy's pants are black. 3. Dog has no spots. 4. Boy's shirt is different. 5. Boy is wearing mittens. 6. Shrub is missing.

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Wishing Well®

3	5	7	2	5	4	3	7	2	6	8	5	3
A	E	C	A	S	A	V	H	P	V	L	P	O
6	7	6	7	6	5	6	7	5	7	2	3	2
I	A	C	N	T	E	O	N	X	E	A	I	R
5	7	5	8	4	7	5	6	5	2	3	2	4
P	L	E	E	N	D	R	R	I	T	D	Y	E
7	5	4	7	2	3	6	8	6	8	3	2	3
E	E	W	S	F	D	Y	A	I	D	E	O	B
7	6	5	6	4	6	3	6	4	6	7	6	2
I	S	N	A	L	C	A	H	I	I	R	E	R
4	2	4	6	5	2	4	6	8	5	4	2	7
F	Y	E	V	C	O	B	E	O	E	E	U	E
6	3	4	7	8	3	4	8	4	8	4	8	8
D	T	G	S	T	E	I	H	N	E	S	R	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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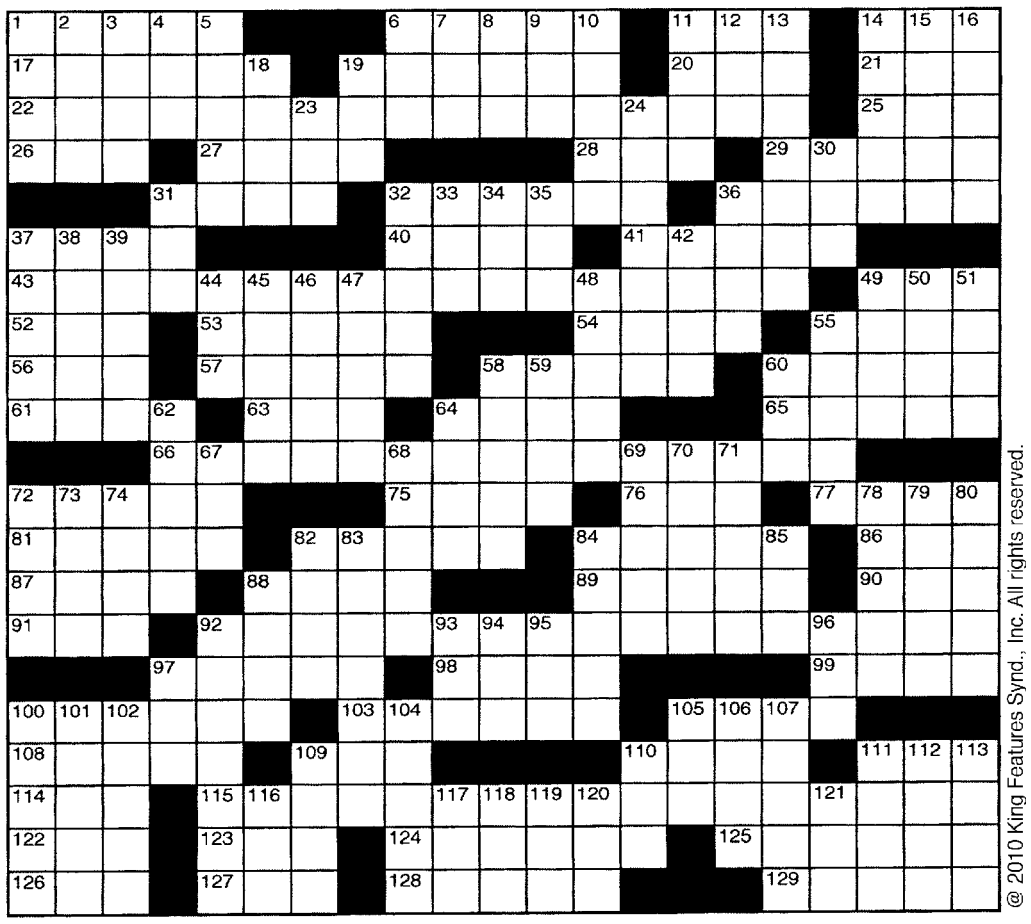
Super Crossword — BIOPICS

ACROSS

1 Potassium, e.g.
6 __ pole
11 Scott's "The __ Quartet"
14 "Nova" network
17 Idolized
19 Fandango kin
20 Maestro de Waart
21 "Hulk" Ferrigno
22 George M. Cohan biopic
25 Link letters?
26 Grant or Tan
27 Crow's toe
28 CPR provider
29 Tenor Mario
31 Svelte
32 TV's "__ & Greg"
36 "El Cid" star
37 Stardom
40 Like pie?
41 Squirrel away
43 Thomas More biopic
49 Small shots
52 Bother
53 Japanese dog
54 Social misfit
55 Throw in the towel
56 Cio-Cio-San's sash
57 '86 Janet Jackson hit
58 Fresh
60 Billie of "The Wizard of Oz"
61 Merino males
63 I.M. the architect
64 Manage
65 With 49 Down, Thomas Jefferson's veep
66 Edwin Booth biopic
72 Line
75 "Confound it!"
76 Cubic meas.
77 Mosque figure
81 Marine leader?
82 Helps with the dishes
84 Sao __, Brazil
86 Nev. neighbor
87 Privy to
88 Decree
89 Moving
90 Cotton __
91 Bleak critique
92 Billie Holiday biopic
97 Biblical city
98 Journalist Jacob
99 __ podrida
100 Western desert
103 Sherbet flavor
105 Coup d'__
108 Fight site
109 Actress Alicia
110 Applaud
111 Make wine divine
114 Glowing
115 Robert Stroud biopic
122 Dram
123 Chou En-__
124 Prepared a potion
125 Aftershock
126 "Ask __ Girl" ('59 film)
127 Terminate
128 Frequently
129 Electrical inventor

DOWN

1 Author Angelou
2 Dairy-case buy
3 Oscar's cousin
4 Genesis vessel
5 Parasite
6 Overly
7 Foster's "__ Dog Tray"
8 __ Aviv
9 Palindromic preposition
10 Transmit by bytes
11 The Mertzes' income
12 Suffix
13 Unhappy
14 Rocker Robert
15 Movie chimp
16 Largest African nation
18 Sandwich shop
19 Cellist's need
23 Blocker or Aykroyd
24 Piles up
30 Timber tree
31 Decimal base
32 Hold up
33 Baseball's Chase
34 Dolt
35 Bread or booze
36 Jurist Learned
37 Party present
38 Lab critter
39 Adage
42 British pol
44 Mozart's "Cosi __ tutte"
45 Giraffe kin
46 Up and about
47 Tall story?
48 First name in photography
49 See 65 Across
50 South African activist
51 WWII gun
55 Resembling
58 Couches
59 Datebook abbr.
60 Candy quantity
62 Cold-shoulder
64 Transformer part
67 Actress Peggy
68 Polishes prose
69 "Stop, sailor!"
70 Time of your life
71 "Dallas" matriarch
72 Wisecrack
73 Skeleton part
74 007's school
78 Tycoon
79 Historian Durant
80 IQ crew
82 "The Aeneid" queen
83 TV's "Everybody Loves __"
84 Dated
85 Solid circle
88 Grow dull
92 Endearing
93 Nest egg
94 Diarist Anais
95 Light carriage
96 Fate
97 __ Antonio, TX
100 Mediterranean island
101 Sky stalker
102 Dock
104 Stallone role
105 Building wing
106 Diplomacy
107 In pieces
109 Saharan
110 No gentleman
111 "Babes in __" ('37 musical)
112 Sheffield slammer
113 Biblical book
116 Charleson or Carmichael
117 Rottweiler's remark
118 Take-home
119 Be in debt
120 Marsh
121 Fairway accessory



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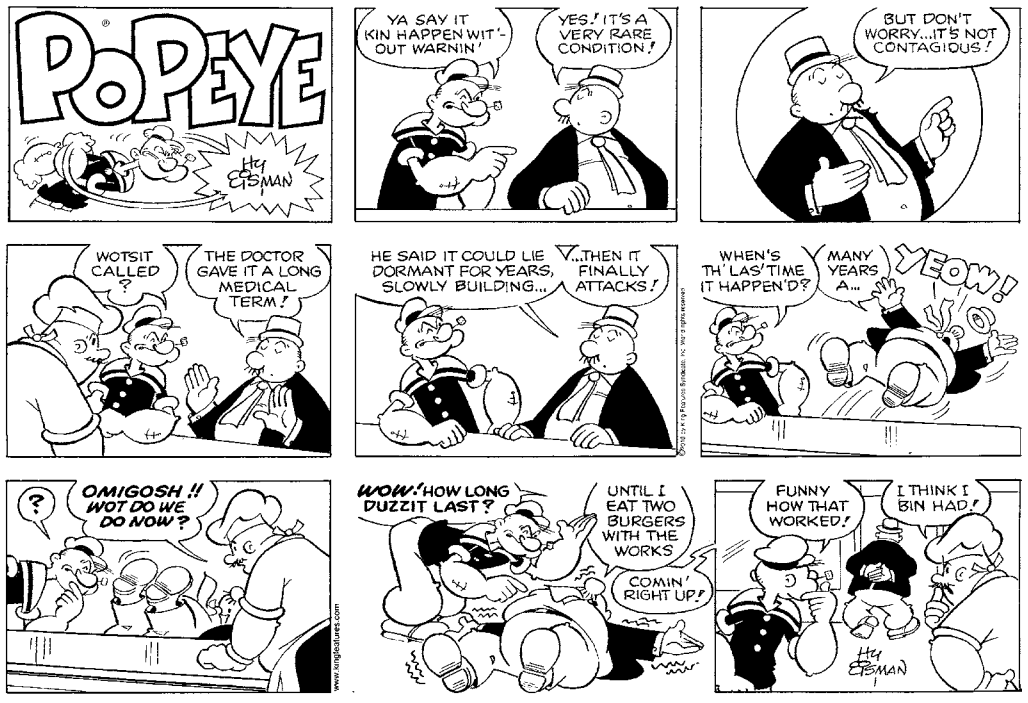
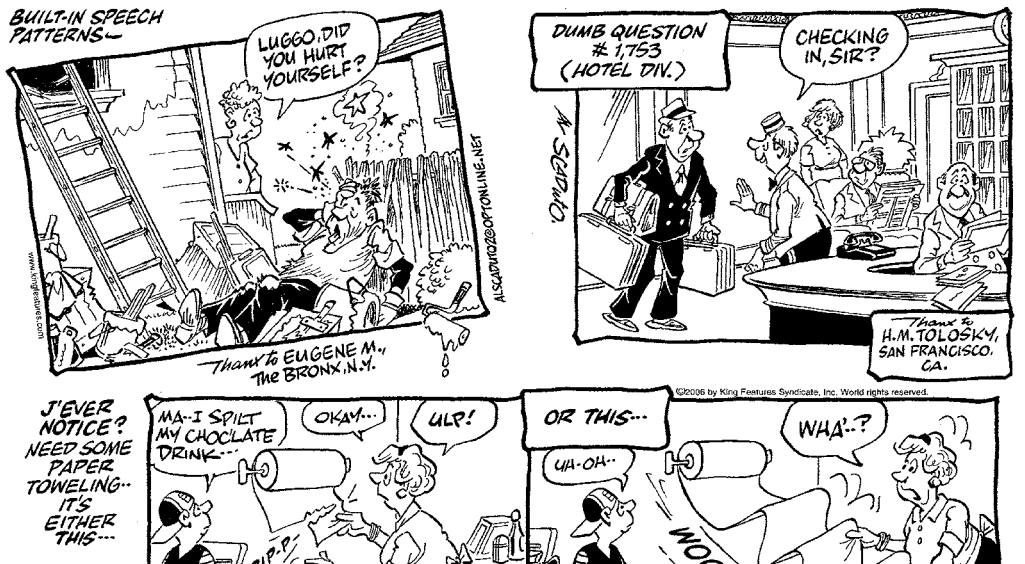
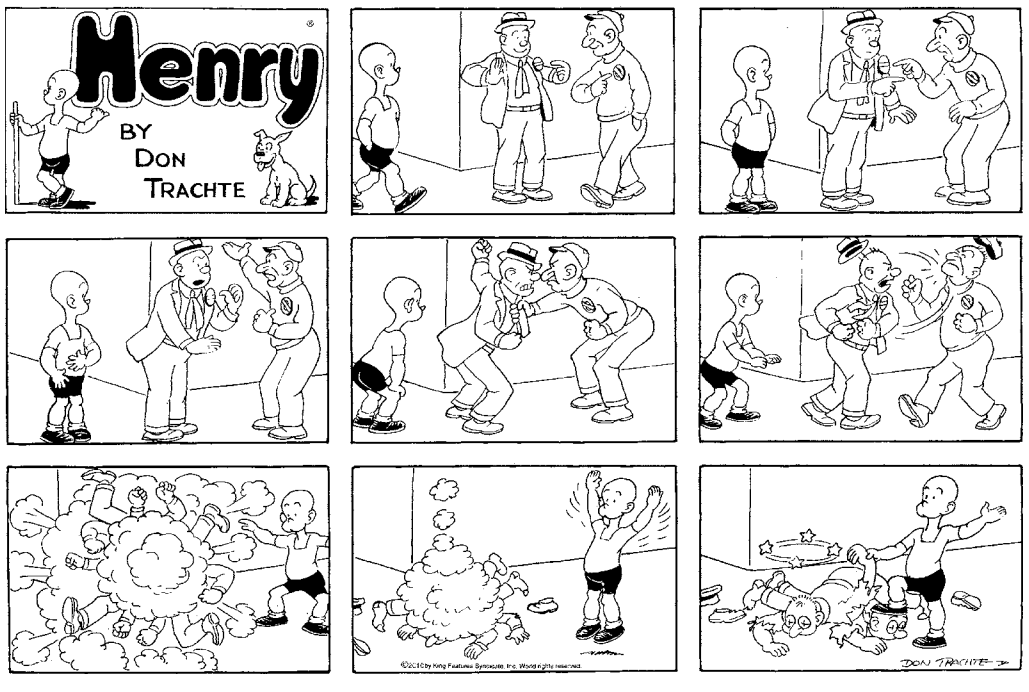

POPEYE
Hy EISMAN
YA SAY IT KIN HAPPEN WIT'-OUT WARNIN'
YES! IT'S A VERY RARE CONDITION!
BUT DON'T WORRY...IT'S NOT CONTAGIOUS!
WOTSIT CALLED ?
THE DOCTOR GAVE IT A LONG MEDICAL TERM!
HE SAID IT COULD LIE DORMANT FOR YEARS, SLOWLY BUILDING...
...THEN IT FINALLY ATTACKS!
WHEN'S TH' LAS' TIME IT HAPPEN'D?
MANY YEARS A...
YEOW!
OMIGOSH !! WOT DO WE DO NOW ?
WOW! HOW LONG DUZZIT LAST ?
UNTIL I EAT TWO BURGERS WITH THE WORKS
COMIN' RIGHT UP!
FUNNY HOW THAT WORKED!
I THINK I BIN HAD!
www.singlefeatures.com

They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto





Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: In what Disney movie was Earth referred to as "Section 17, Area 51"?
2. MUSIC: What does the musical direction "subito" mean?
3. ACRONYMS: What does B.P.O.E. stand for?
4. SCIENCE: What term describes a plant's involuntary tendency to grow toward light?
5. TELEVISION: What popular 1970s TV show featured a news writer named Murray Slaughter?
6. COMMUNICATION: What is the code word for the letter "V" in international radio alphabet?
7. COMICS: Who was The Green Hornet's sidekick?
8. U.S. STATES: Which of the United States has the nickname "Old Dominion State"?
9. RELIGION: Who was the founder of the Methodist Church?
10. HUMAN ANATOMY: What is a more common name for the nares?

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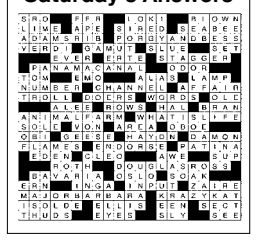
Answers

1. "Lilo and Stitch"
2. Suddenly
3. Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
4. Tropism
5. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
6. Victor
7. Kato
8. Virginia
9. The Rev. John Wesley
10. Nostrils

Saturday's Answers



The Spats — by Jeff Pickering

I STILL HAVE THE FIRST DOLLAR I EVER MADE!!
TOO BAD I DON'T HAVE ANY OF THE REST.
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CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

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Cain's pitching, offense give Giants 2-0 lead

SANFRANCISCO (AP)—For a team that barely made it to the playoffs, the San Francisco Giants are looking more and more like a baseball juggernaut.

Matt Cain pitched 7 2-3 innings and combined with his bullpen on a four-hitter, Edgar Renteria reprised his October success with a home run and three RBIs, and San Francisco broke away for a 9-0 win Thursday night and a 2-0 Series lead.

"We've put ourselves in a good situation," said Cain, who hasn't allowed an earned run in the postseason. "We've just got to take that confidence and some of the good approaches that we've had into these last two games and take them down to Texas with us."

Forty of the previous 51 teams to take a 2-0 lead have gone on to win the title, including seven straight and 13 of the last 14.

After a day off, the Series resumes for the first time in Arlington, Texas. Colby Lewis starts Game 3 for the Rangers on Saturday night against Jonathan Sanchez.

"I don't think we caught any breaks yet," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "We certainly don't feel like we're defeated. We're heading home. They took care of us in their ballpark, now we're headed to ours."

San Francisco improved to 11-0 against Texas at AT&T Park and got its third shutout in nine postseason wins. The Giants sent the high-octane Rangers offense to its first shutout since Sept. 23.

Not bad for a team that scored 19 runs in its six-game NL championship series win over Philadelphia.

By the ninth inning, giddy fans waving orange pompoms and scarves were chanting "Sweep! Sweep!" A four-game Series would end on a night for the Giants' colors—Halloween.

"Unbelievable," said Renteria, who has just eight regular-season homers in the last two years. "You guys know I have power."

No team has overcome a 2-0 Series deficit since the 1996 New York Yankees against Atlanta. The Giants have won each time they took a 2-0 lead: in 1922, 1933 and 1954.

"We're not playing the same," said the Nelson Cruz, one of several slumping Rangers. "I don't know what it is. I wish I could tell you. The way we're playing, it's different. It's not us."

Cruz is 1 for 9 and Josh Hamilton is 1 for 8 with no RBIs.

There's a reason.

"I think that more or less it has to do with the pitching we've been facing," Washington said. "We had some opportunities early in the ballgame to put some runs on the board, and we had the right people up there, and he made his pitches."

While the Giants had the best ERA in the majors during the regular season, they were just 17th in runs—the fewest among the eight postseason teams. Yet San Francisco has outscored Texas 20-7 and outhit the Rangers .314 to .227. The Giants' offense if picking up speed faster than a cable car heading down Nob Hill.

"You take all the runs you can get," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said.

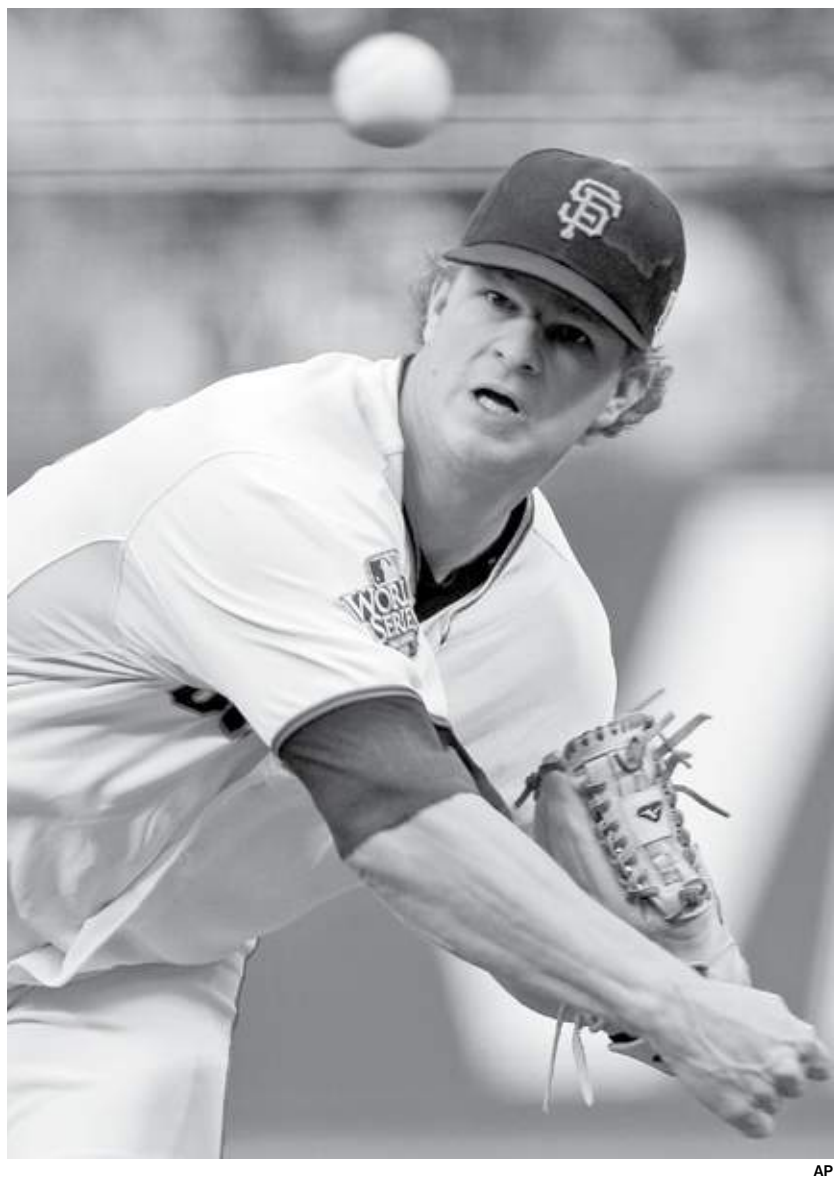
Four straight two-out walks by Rangers relievers let the game out of control, and Texas set a record for most runs allowed in a franchise's first two Series games—five more than Colorado did against Boston in 2007.

At this rate, team president and part-owner Nolan Ryan probably wants to grab a ball himself and get on the mound.

"It's not going to bother us. We're still confident we can win this thing," said Derek Holland, who forced in a run with three straight walks.

Loser C.J. Wilson didn't pitch badly, allowed two runs and three hits in six-plus innings. He gave up Renteria's fifth-inning homer, then left the mound accompanied by a trainer with a blister on the middle finger of his pitching hand following a leadoff walk in the seventh. Juan Uribe added a run-scoring single against reliever Darren Oliver.

"This blister is something he's been dealing with all year," Washington said. "He'll put some glue on it and do whatever he has to do to close it up."



AP

San Francisco Giants' Matt Cain throws during the first inning of Game 2 of baseball's World Series against the Texas Rangers Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010, in San Francisco.

San Francisco pulled away as Washington again made bullpen moves too late, and the Giants became the first team in World Series history to score seven runs in an inning after two outs and the bases empty.

After Holland's bases-loaded walk to Aubrey Huff, Mark Lowe walked Uribe. Renteria, whose 11th-inning single won Game 7 of the 1997 Series for Florida against Cleveland, followed with a two-run single. Pinch-hitter Aaron Rowand hit a two-run triple against Michael Kirkman, and Andres Torres doubled in a run.

Cain allowed all four hits, and has allowed only a single unearned run in 21 1-3 innings over three postseason starts. He joined the Giants' Christy Mathewson (1905) and Carl Hubbell (1933), the Yankees' Waite Hoyt (1921) and Detroit's Kenny Rogers (2006) as the only pitchers to allow no unearned runs in 20 or more innings in a single postseason.

Cain credited rookie catcher Buster Posey.

"I think it's a little bit of everything," Cain said. "Buster's doing a great job of putting down the right fingers. He's been calling the right pitches."

Javier Lopez and Guillermo Mota finished. San Francisco has a 2.64 ERA in the postseason with 109 strikeouts in 109 innings—and just 35 walks.

Now the Giants have to keep it up on the road.

"Now we're going in their ballpark," Bochy said. "I'm sure they're going to have a sense of confidence. We've been road warriors, so that's what it's going to take right now."

Texas had a chance to get ahead when Ian Kinsler drove an 0-2 pitch leading off the fifth to deep center. The ball hit flush off the top of the fence, just to the left of the 399-foot sign, bounded up and was caught by Torres, who held him to a double.

"I thought it was a home run," Cain said.

Replays showed umpires got the call correct.

"A lot of times they do bounce out," Bochy said. "But we got a break there."

Kinsler was stranded when David Murphy lined to shortstop, Matt Treanor grounded to shortstop and—following an intentional walk—Wilson grounded weakly to first.

Renteria led off the bottom half by pulling an 0-1 pitch at the letters down the left-field line, where it landed about eight rows deep, next to an alleyway. Renteria had gone 53 straight at-bats without a home run since connecting off the Los Angeles Dodgers' Ted Lilly on Sept. 4 and had not homered at AT&T Park since July 27 against Florida's Brian Sanches.

All the bounces have gone the Giants' way

"I don't think we caught any breaks yet," Washington said. "We certainly don't feel like we're defeated. We're heading home. They took care of us in their ballpark, now we're headed to ours."

Giants hope to give San Francisco first title

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Mike Fontenot spent more than three years with perhaps baseball's most cursed team, those lovable losers known as the Chicago Cubs.

It taught Fontenot all about long-suffering fans desperate for a championship.

Little did he know that when he got traded to San Francisco in August, Fontenot was joining a team with its own set of title-starved supporters.

"They've had the goat, the whole Bartman thing and everything else going on over there," the veteran infielder said of the Cubs. "I didn't realize that they hadn't won here. I remember when they went to the World Series and watching the games in 2002. I guess I hadn't realized it's been more than 50 years."

San Francisco might not get the attention for heartbreak that places like Boston and Philadelphia received until recently, but the city by the bay trails only Cleveland when it comes to the length of a World Series title drought.

Only two National League franchises have won more championships than the Giants' five, but all of those came before the team moved to California in 1958.

"It would mean a lot," former Giants slugger Barry Bonds said.

Bonds almost delivered in 2002, when he hit eight postseason home runs and helped San Francisco to a 5-0 lead against the Angels in the potential Game 6 clincher. The Angels rallied to win the game, then the World Series, extending the Giants' anguish.

"It hurts," said Giants special instructor Shawon Dunston, who homered to give them a 2-0 lead in Game 6 that year. "We had it and they beat us fair and square. It sticks. What hurt is I didn't win a World Series as a player."

He is far from alone when it comes to title-less Giants in San Francisco. The franchise was unable to win it with Willie Mays, Willie McCovey, Orlando Cepeda and Juan Marichal in the 1960s, Will Clark and Matt Williams in the '80s, and for 15 years with Bonds in the lineup.

Now, with a handful of homegrown stars and a bunch of castoffs and misfits, the Giants came into Thursday with a 1-0 lead in the World Series against the Texas Rangers.

"You have guys like Willie Mays, Willie McCovey, Orlando Cepeda who are in the clubhouse all the time, which still puts you in awe. You feel like you're in the presence of greatness and you are," outfielder Aaron Rowand said. "They talk about it all the time.

"They had unbelievable teams when they were playing here," Rowand added. "But it takes a little luck to win too. They didn't get as lucky as hopefully we will."

Rowand is among a handful of Giants with a World Series ring, having helped the Chicago White Sox end their 88-year drought against Houston in 2005.

The Giants have come close a few times without breaking through. The most memorable came in 1962, when they made it to the seventh game of the World Series against the New York Yankees. In one of the most dramatic endings in postseason history, McCovey lined out to second baseman Bobby Richardson with runners on second and third and two outs in the Giants' 1-0 loss.

Had the ball been a foot in either direction, it could have been the winning hit.

"Very heartbreaking," said Cepeda, who was on deck when the game ended. "Even though we had a great team, it wasn't a close unit. Something was missing from that ballclub."

The Giants won the division in 1971 but lost to Pittsburgh in the NL Championship Series. They didn't make it back to the postseason until 1987, a stretch in which their biggest moment might have been Joe Morgan's homer on the final day of the '82 season to beat the rival Dodgers and give Atlanta the division title.

Then came weak-hitting Jose Oquendo's home run in Game 7 of the 1987 NLCS that helped St. Louis overcome a 3-2 series deficit. There was the earthquake that interrupted the Bay Bridge series in 1989 halfway through Oakland's sweep of San Francisco, three first-round losses to wild-card teams during the Bonds era and, of course, the 2002 World Series collapse.

The Giants were up 5-0 in the seventh inning when manager Dusty Baker removed Russ Ortiz. Scott Spiezio greeted Felix Rodriguez with a three-run homer and the Angels scored three more in the eighth to win the game. They ultimately took the series in seven.

"You go back to Will Clark's era, of course Bonds, they've had some outstanding teams," manager Bruce Bochy said. "It goes to show you how hard it is to do this. They're very much aware it's been a while. It's never happened in this city, but you've got to keep your focus on winning the game and not get caught in it."

Cepeda has played for or watched almost every Giants team in San Francisco and says that this team might have the ingredient some of its more talented predecessors lacked.

"Of all the teams that played in the World Series, '62 was the most talented. It had more talent than the 2002 team," he said. "This year, with less talent, I have never seen a team that comes with so many close games as this ballclub. The last three weeks of the season, every game was close. That's why I think they can win this year. So many teams have big names, but this team has no superstar and won the close games. That's a good sign."

Pat Burrell, who grew up in the Bay Area, won a title with Philadelphia two years ago and was in attendance as a fan in 2002 when the Giants won Game 4 to even the series.

Now he gets to be on the field to help this year's version do what others have been unable to for the team he grew up supporting.

"Just knowing the city and the history here, it would mean a lot to me, my parents, my family and millions of others in this area," Burrell said. "We enjoy that part of it."

Orlando routs Wizards, 112-83

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Dwight Howard had 23 points and 10 rebounds to lift the Orlando Magic to an easy 112-83 victory over the Washington Wizards on Thursday night, giving the NBA's newest arena a grand opening and spoiling No. 1 overall pick John Wall's debut.

Vince Carter had 18 points and Jameer Nelson scored 16 to help the Magic cruise to another blowout victory after a perfect preseason.

Wall had 14 points and nine assists—much of it in cleanup duty—on 6 for 19 shooting in his first meaningful professional game. He showed flashes of stardom but became just another spectator on an emotional night in Orlando.

Not that the Magic have much time to savor the Amway Center's opening. They get their first shot at LeBron James and the new-look Miami Heat down south Friday night.

But Orlando's warmup act couldn't have gone smoother.

A standing-room only crowd of 18,918 even brought out Tiger Woods from his Orlando-area home—once a regular at Magic games—for the first time since his sex scandal last year. Magic All-Star center Dwight Howard took the microphone to thank fans before the game, and NBA Commissioner David Stern endured a long shower of boos before he proclaimed that there's no arena "better than this facility in the world."

Magic owner Rich DeVos then walked to center court, a cane in his right hand and a team official balancing him on the left, and gave a teary-eyed speech seeing the Amway Center finally realized.

"This is a Magic building. But it's your community center. It's your place for many adventures to take place," said DeVos, 84, his voice quivering. "So we know that this place will be a place of comfort and joy, and that everybody who comes here will be honored and loved and cherished."

The Magic didn't exactly give the same comfort to the visitors.

They showed the same dominance that led them to an undefeated preseason, sprinting out to a double-digit lead from the start behind a flurry of 3-pointers and hard-driving layups. Orlando went ahead by 14 after the first quarter, 58-34 at half and more than 35 points in the fourth.

AP

Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard (12) grabs a rebound over teammate Quentin Richardson during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Washington Wizards in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010.

And the highlights were everywhere.

Carter had a one-handed, outstretched layup over Al Thornton for a three-point play; Howard met Wall in mid-air to swat the rookie's layup, sent another one into the first row and might have received the first-opening night "M-V-P" chants in league history.

The Wizards were simply no match.

Wall came out a little too hyped and took 11 of his team's first 24 shots, making only three. But the former Kentucky star also showed that roderunner-like speed and awesome athleticism.

That wasn't nearly enough.

A Wizards team already enduring growing pains were without Gilbert Arenas, who was back in the Washington area getting treatment on a strained tendon in his right ankle. They will also be without Arenas, the often troubled guard trying to comeback from a 50-game suspension last season after a felony gun conviction for bringing the weapon into the locker room, Saturday night in Atlanta.

The Magic finished the preseason 7-0 and won by an average of almost 25 points per game. They're the three-time defending division champions, two years removed from the NBA finals and still seething about being booted by Boston in the Eastern Conference finals in May.

Oh, all that attention for that LeBron guy who just moved into the neighborhood hasn't sat well either.

Orlando's first shot at him is next.

Suns 110, Jazz 94

In Salt Lake City, Hakim Warrick and Steve Nash scored 18 points apiece to help Phoenix beat Utah.

The Suns led by as many as 18 points against a Jazz team that played with more intensity than during their 22-point season-opening loss at Denver on Wednesday. But in the end the Jazz still had trouble finding the basket.

Utah shot just 33.3 percent in the first quarter and 42.9 percent for the game, going 3-for-13 on 3-pointers while Phoenix made 10.

Al Jefferson scored 20 points to lead Utah.

Raja Bell also struggled in a game against his former team, scoring just seven points on 3 of 12 shooting.

Allen Iverson agrees deal with Turkey's Besiktas

DAN GELSTON
AP SPORTS WRITER

Allen Iverson has agreed in principle to a $4 million, two-year contract with the Turkish professional basketball team Besiktas.

Iverson is expected to officially sign with the club this weekend and will begin his overseas career the week of Nov. 8. His management team put out a release Thursday.

Iverson and Besiktas officials will hold a press conference Friday in New York.

"He's ecstatic," Iverson's manager, Gary Moore, said by phone. "He's very excited, very happy the people in Turkey want him, the people in Turkey appreciate what he brings to the game, and he can't wait to get over there."

The 2001 NBA MVP has been out of work since leaving the Philadelphia 76ers in March to deal with family issues. Moore said not a single NBA team contacted Iverson in the offseason.

Besiktas' executive board member, Seref Yalcin, traveled to the United States this week to meet with Iverson and work out contract details.

Yalcin, Besiktas owner Yildirim Demiroren and Iverson will attend Friday's press conference.

Iverson is 17th on the NBA's career scoring list with 24,368 points over a 14-year career with Philadelphia, Denver, Detroit and Memphis. He won the MVP in 2001 when he led the Sixers to the finals.

Iverson was the No. 1 overall pick in the 1996 draft and spent his first 10 seasons in Philadelphia. He was a four-time scoring champion, averaged 26.7 points and never won a championship.

He played three games for Memphis last season before he returned for a second stint with the Sixers. He averaged 13.9 points for the Sixers before he took a leave of absence in March because of family issues.

In his prime, Iverson boasted top-selling jerseys and sneakers and was a global superstar. His popularity never waned even as his production dipped—Iverson was voted an Eastern Conference All-Star starter last season.

Moore said Iverson had no concerns about playing overseas.

"The interest the people from Turkey have shown leaves us nothing to feel but very, very optimistic," Moore said. "I don't see why they wouldn't be. Look at everything Allen has done in his career. Look at the way he plays the game. I can really understand the people of Turkey being happy about getting a player of Allen's stature."

Iverson turned 35 in June and had wanted to keep playing in the NBA.

Bobcats coach Larry Brown, who led Iverson and the Sixers to the finals in 2001, called Iverson's situation "sad" earlier this week.

"What he's accomplished, I don't think you want to see him end his career this way," he said.

Branch worried about wins, not matching Moss

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—There have been plenty of changes in the New England Patriots offense since Deion Branch's first stint ended after the 2005 season.

He's still learning, but in two games after returning in a trade, he has as many catches as he had in four with the Seattle Seahawks. Not that it matters to him.

"If the coach needs me to catch 10 balls to win, that'll be cool," Branch said Thursday. "If I need to catch two to win, that's cool, too. I think the biggest thing is just worrying about the win."

So forget about comparing Branch to Randy Moss when Minnesota visits on Sunday. Moss' trade to the Vikings on Oct. 6 created a need for a reliable, experienced wide receiver that Branch filled when he was traded on Oct. 12.

But he's not worried about any contrast. And he's not concerned about the reception Moss will receive from Patriots fans, either.

"I don't know how that's going to pan out," Branch said. "Am I excited to see it? No. I just want to go out and do my job and, hopefully, we win this game."

Moss' departure left the Patriots without a deep threat who could open up things underneath for receivers like Wes Welker. Branch is fast, but is more of a possession receiver.

Still, he wouldn't mind running under some long passes from Tom Brady.

"We all would as receivers, but everything has to work," Branch said. "Once you get in the flow—the front line doing their job, Tom doing his job and also the receivers doing theirs—so it may take time. It may be game by game. We're going to take what they give us."

Branch has 13 catches with the Patriots. He had nine in his first game, a 23-20 overtime win over Baltimore in which he scored a touchdown. That single-game total matched Moss' total in his four games with New England. Last Sunday, Branch caught four passes in a 23-20 win at the San Diego Chargers. But Brady threw for just 159 yards.

"I think it was more what we were doing wrong," Branch said, as opposed to what the Chargers defense was doing right. "The last thing we try to focus on is what other teams are doing. If we focus on what we're doing, I think we'll be OK, and I think we didn't have a lot of good things on the field last week. We came out at halftime, had a great drive. We made a couple of positive plays later on in the game. But early on, it wasn't good."

Even though Moss is gone, the Patriots say their offense hasn't changed.

"We threw one deep (to Branch) the (third) play of the game and they were back there pretty deep defending it," Brady said. "You're always trying to spread the field vertically and horizontally. You can't make it a 20-yard field. You have to make them defend the whole field from sideline to sideline and end zone to end zone.

"They're much more conscious of it when you're hitting those plays, I can tell you that. Those long balls, they feel good when they stop those. We've got to hit those plays."

Vikings coach Brad Childress has noticed some things the Patriots are doing differently with Branch.

"But, typically, their scheme is the scheme they employ from week-to-week," he said, "both when Randy was playing, and also when Deion is playing. I would think that it's just a matter of Deion getting comfortable with how the scheme has evolved in the time that he left and came back."

When Branch left, he was just a four-year veteran. Now, he's been in the NFL eight years, the most of any Patriots receiver. He is, as a result, something of a go-to guy for advice.

"It's great, especially when the young guys still ask me questions about certain things when I'm still learning," he said with a laugh.

Branch is feeling more comfortable with the offense as time goes on but wouldn't say if he fits better in New England's offense than Seattle's.

"Everything is based off opportunities," he said. "You don't get the opportunity to do certain things, you'll never be able to do anything. But I think over here, they do a great job of scheming, putting guys in a certain position to make the plays. I'm not saying they didn't do it in Seattle, but ... the offense is totally different."

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Charlotte	0	1	.000	1
Washington	0	1	.000	1

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Cleveland	1	0	1.000	–
Chicago	0	1	.000	1
Detroit	0	1	.000	1
Indiana	0	1	.000	1
Milwaukee	0	1	.000	1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

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New Orleans	1	0	1.000	–
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Memphis	0	1	.000	1
Houston	0	2	.000	1 1/2

Northwest Division

Portland	2	0	1.000	–
Denver	1	0	1.000	1/2
Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	1/2
Minnesota	0	1	.000	1 1/2
Utah	0	2	.000	2

Pacific Division

Golden State	1	0	1.000	–
L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	–
Sacramento	1	0	1.000	–
Phoenix	1	1	.500	1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	1	.000	1

Yesterday's Games

Orlando 112, Washington 83
Phoenix 110, Utah 94

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROACH

From Page 28

fight, this could be it. If Floyd (Mayweather Jr.) doesn't come to the table, I don't know what's going to challenge him. He loves his other job, and he might be done with this one."

Roach hopes the move stateside will help, although the hubbub Wednesday at the open workout suggested otherwise.

After Pacquiao apparently was served with papers in an envelope on the way into the gym, he quickly got his hands wrapped before walking slowly around the ring in the Wild Card's stifling heat, patiently answering questions from dozens of reporters. Perhaps after greeting actor Jeremy Piven, Pacquiao would be ready to train.

"I've been under pressure and tough conditions before," Pacquiao said. "The training is going good, but the problem is aside from training, there's lots of stuff to do. ... I'm thinking about (retirement), but I can still fight. I think I'll do a few more."

The mob scene in L.A. is a sea of tranquility compared to home, where the 31-year-old spends at least part of each day as the Honorable Emmanuel D. Pacquiao, freshman congressman from the Sarangani province. Although he's formally excused from legislative duties during training, he still takes regular phone calls from his staff, sometimes even in the middle of workouts.

And for the first time in his career with Roach, Pacquiao took a day off from training to travel to Manila for a meeting with President Benigno Aquino III, although Pacquiao claims he got in a workout there.

Flying Dartsmen atop A Division

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Buddies Bar & Grill's Flying Dartsmen routed Vargas Snipers, 14-3, at home Monday to continue to lord it over in the A Division of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association.

Flying Dartsmen swept all four cricket matches, won a partners 501 game, and swept all four sniper matches for a swift team victory. They went on to sweep both wild cricket games and took three of the four singles 301 matches before donating the final team 1001 cherry match to charity.

The victory improved Flying Dartsmen's win-loss record to 138-83, nine games ahead of the second place Naked Fish Boyz (129-92), while Charlie's Bar's Primos (124-97) is close behind in third place.

Notables last Monday include a High-In of 160 by Jeff Barit of D'Pirates Bar & Grill's CK-Destroyers and a 155 High-Out by the Dartsmen's Julian Camacho. Coincidentally, Camacho is currently ranked atop the individual rankings with a weighted average of 56.29.

Bud Brothers 9, Naked Fish Boyz 8

At Buddies Bar & Grill, home team Bud Brothers won a pair of cricket matches, swept both partners 501 games, and took a pair of sniper matches for the early advantage against Naked Fish Boyz. Then they won a wild cricket game and two singles 301 matches for the automatic victory.

CK-Destroyers 9, Right There! 8

Home team CK-Destroyers won a pair of cricket matches, a partners 501 game, and three of the four sniper matches to build an early lead against Right There! of Buddies Bar & Grill. After both teams won a game of wild cricket, Right There! answered back by taking three of the four singles 301 matches, but the Destroyers won the final team 1001 contest to come out on top.

Primos 11, Locals 6

Both teams won a pair of cricket matches before the home team Primos pushed ahead, sweeping partners 501 games and winning three of the four sniper matches. Then they won a wild cricket game and took a pair of singles 301 matches for the automatic victory. The Primos added the final team 1001 cherry game to their total and team member John P. Sablan won all six of his matches.

LADIES LEAGUE

Yakau 11, Tipiyeew 4

In the Ladies League, Yakau beat Tipiyeew, 11-4, at home Monday to improve its league-leading record to 126-69.

Yakau won three of the four singles 301 matches, swept both wild cricket games, won a partners 501 contest and took three of the four cricket matches for the team victory. They added a partners baseball game and the final team 1001 match to their total. Yakau's Frances Magogna won all six of her matches.

Just a game behind Yakau are the Strikers (125-70) with third-ranked D' Pirates Bar & Grill's Mama's Snipers (120-75) well in the mix.

Notables include a 160 High-In by Polly Rebelkuul of USSP's Kmal Sechelim and a 124 High-Out by the Strikers' Rufina Guevarra.

Lady Gagas 8, Strikers 7

Home team Lady Gagas won three of the four singles 301 matches for the early lead. Then both teams won a wild cricket game, a partners 501 game, and a pair of cricket matches. The Strikers swept both partners baseball games to tie it up heading into the final team 1001 match, but Lady Gagas regrouped and came out on top.

Pink Panthers 13, Megatouch 2

Up against a two-woman Sande's Megatouch crew at Buddies Bar & Grill, the home team Pink Panthers swept all four singles 301 matches, both wild cricket game, won a partners 501 contest and took three of the four cricket matches to make light work of their opponents; they went on to sweep both partners baseball games and the final team 1001 match.

Mama's Snipers 14, Kmal Sechelim 1

Up against a three-woman Kmal Sechelim crew, the home team Mama's Snipers completely demolished their opponents and were only one singles cricket match away from running the table.

MAFEA

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his patented jack-knife drive to up MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's lead to four, 92-88, but Dave Sablan answered with his own version of a daredevil drive to threaten anew, 90-92.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt fumbled in the ensuing play, but got a break when a jump ball was called as players from both camps struggled to recover the loose ball. The possession arrow pointed to MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt thus it kept the leather.

Esdrelon made it another four-point game when he connected on a pair of charities in the next play, 94-90, 52 seconds to go in the match.

Wowie Abuel tried to go for a quick basket, but was too fast for his own good and lost the ball. Tumaquip picked up the leather and MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt continued to hustle for the ball in the remaining 49 seconds to deny MDX's bid to extend the series.

After Tumaquip got the loose ball, Bernard Aquino was pressured to pull up for a triple with the 24-second shot clock ticking. Aquino missed, but Edmark Mendoza grabbed the offensive board. MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt muffed another shot, but Esdrelon scrambled to pick up the ball after a long rebound, dribbled out of defenders, and was fouled.

Esdrelon had a split for MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's 95-90 lead and with only 10 second left and MDX out of timeouts, the dethroned champion failed to buy a basket.

MDX's attempt to force a deciding Game 3 suffered a big blow when the erstwhile champion had a lethargic start against the streaking MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt. Mel Capalad led MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's opening salvo, firing 10 points, while Esdrelon and Aquino chipped in five apiece to give the team a 30-13 lead.

MDX-Chow Queen had only three players scoring in the first period and only two making field goals in that canto. It started to pick up the scoring in the second quarter with Sablan nailing eight and Abuel adding six, four from the foul line. However, MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt also kept pouring in points with Barbo and Esdrelon tallying eight each and Aquino posting seven more to pad their lead to 23 at the break, 61-38.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt then began the third period with a 4-0 run before Banjo Basila, Glenn Aquino, and Bernardo anchored a late rally in that period to slice the lead to 16, 62-78, entering the final canto.

MDX-Chow Queen continued its uphill climb in the fourth canto, but MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt refused to press the panic bottom and hung in there, capitalizing on the former's costly error and a couple of missed long jumpers to escape with another close win. MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt took Game 1 after nailing an overtime victory last Tuesday, 103-96.

Esdrelon paced MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt with 20 points, while Aquino added 16. Barbo and Capalad had 13 and 12, respectively. Edsel Mendoza also scored 12 points in his only game in the playoffs, giving MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt a lift in the third when he tallied eight points.

Sablan top-scored for MDX with 20, while Abuel logged 16. Bernardo made 14, but was scoreless in the fourth. Ivan De Vero and Basila had 14 each, but the former was held to four points in the second half.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt 95 – Esdrelon 20, Aquino 16, D. Barbo 13, Eds. Mendoza 12, Capalad 12, Tumaquip 9, Talania 6, Edm. Mendoza 4.

MDX-Chow Queen 90 – Sablan 20, Abuel 16, Bernardo 14, Basila 14, De Vero 14, Aquino 8, Pangilinan 2, Tamayo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-13, 61-38, 78-61, 95-90.

INTER

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games scheduled in Week 1 resulted in a draw.

Baek Du San and Paire Football Club played in the second game and the match ended in a 3-3 draw. The third game between Korean Football Association on Saipan and Wild Bill's also resulted in a draw, 2-2.

Completing the five-game schedule in Week 1 of the men's league was the Matansa-Shirley's Coffee Shop tiff. The match went scoreless in the first half before Matansa found the back of the net early in the second half and then midway for a 2-0 win.

Only eight teams debuted in the opening week of the league, as MP United and Tan Holdings drew a bye in Week 1.

MP United will play its first game of the season this Sunday against Independents FC at 12pm. In the second game this weekend at 2pm, Shirley's Coffee Shop will challenge Inter Godfather's, while Paire will face KFAS in the last game of the weekend at 4pm.

Tan Holdings will have its debut match on Thursday when it duels KFAS at 7pm. Matansa, Baek Du San, and Wild Bill's will have a bye in Week 2.

This year's men's league has a single-round robin format in the regular season with each team having four games. The 10 teams are divided into two groups with Inter Godfather's, Independents, Matansa, Shirley's, and MP United comprising Group A. Group B is composed of KFAS, Baek Du San, Wild Bill's, Tan Holdings, and Paire.

Only the Top 4 teams in each group will advance to the playoff round. Format in the playoffs have yet to be decided.

Futsal boot camp today at MHS

Meanwhile, the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will go ahead with its futsal boot camp today at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The camp, which aims to prepare female strikers for the 2010 Women's Futsal Fall League, will run from 9am to 11am. The two-hour clinic is open to both beginners and returning players.

After the boot camp, NMIFA is scheduled to kick off its futsal league this Monday with the association holding games both in the recreational and competitive divisions. Futsal matches every Monday and Wednesday nights will be played at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan, while Saturday morning games are slated at the MHS gym.

SPARKS

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tained their double-digit margin, 31-20, at halftime.

The Sparks turned it on after the break and jumped out in front, 46-30, with a quarter to go. Agape was held to only 10 points in the third, due to a combination of a lot of missed layups as well as the Sparks' stingy defense.

Agape pulled within eight points at one point in the fourth quarter, but the Sparks would gather their composure and slam the door on Agape in the end.

The Sparks' Eugene Manglona scored six in the last quarter and ended up leading all scorers with 18 points, while Agape's Ferrer scored a team-high 14 markers in the loss.

The win was fifth in a row for Sparks, while the loss was the sixth in as many outings for Agape.

In last Wednesday's matchup, the Sonics downed the Rollers B squad, 85-69, to solidify their position in second place

Leo Galarse paced the Sonics with seven markers in the opening period and received a lot of support from his teammates. Savali Talalemotu led Rollers B with nine points, but his team still trailed by nine, 15-24, in the first quarter.

The Sonics shared the ball well and stretched their lead to 12 points, 43-31, at the half. Joe Ada scored eight points at the end of the half, but Rollers B has had trouble all game getting more than one player involved on the offensive end.

After the break, the Sonics went for the throat. The Sonics' John Darag stepped up and scored 12 of the first 15 points in the third to help jolt his team well ahead, 62-44, heading into the final quarter. Ada tallied seven in the third for Rollers B, who were held to just 13 points.

The game was out of hand by the start of the last quarter. Ada scored 16 in the fourth, but the Rollers B defense could not make a stop and both teams essentially traded baskets in the end. Notably, the Sonics did a great job sharing the ball and will be a force to be reckoned with when playoff time come around.

Galarse and Tristan Elcanea combined for 34 points for the Sonics, while Ada led all scorers with 31 markers.

THURSDAY

Sparks 60 – E. Manglona 18, Hossain 13, Faisao 12, M Manglona 11, Mettao 2, Norita 2, Taitano 2.

Agape 41 – Ferrer 14, Castro 12, Saturno 8, Li 2, Norita 2, Sambile 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-4, 31-20, 46-30, 60-41.

WEDNESDAY

Sonics 85 – Galarse 18, Elcanea 16, Ajoste 11, Villanueva 11, Tudela 9, Cadiang 6, Palacios 6, Sula 6, Del Rosario 2.

Rollers B 69 – Ada 31, Talalemotu 17, Hambros 10, Cenir 7, DL Guerrero 2, Pangelinan 2.

Scoring by Quarters: 24-15, 43-31, 62-44, 85-69.

Cain's pitching, offense give Giants 2-0 lead

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Orlando routs Wizards, 112-83

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MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt claims title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt completed a title sweep against MDX-Chow Queen after pulling off a pulsating 95-90 win in Game 2 of the short championship series in the open division of the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball Thursday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt got off to a jackrabbit start and then showed poise in the end to wrap up the series and dethrone the 2009 champion.

Elmer Esdrelon went 3-for-4 from the foul line in the last 52 seconds to foil MDX's comeback bid, while Darwin Barbo, Bernardo Aquino, and Jomary Tumaquip also hit clutch shots to avoid a monumental collapse by MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt.

The eventual champion led by as much as 27 in the third quarter, 65-38, but Chow Queen slowly ate up the lead and moved within two, 88-90, going into the last two minutes of the game.

Tumaquip then connected on

See MAFEA on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players and coaching staff of MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt pose with their championship trophy during the brief award ceremony for the UFO caging last Thursday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Sparks blast Agape, remain undefeated

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The first place Sparks brushed off Agape, 60-41, to remain undefeated as the U19 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League continued Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sparks made light work of the last place Agape crew right out of the gate. The Sparks defense contained Agape to a mere two baskets in the opening quarter while they amassed a 10-point lead, 14-4.

Agape would find some defense in the second period, but the Sparks always seemed to have an answer.

Reinhold Ferrer led Agape with 10 markers in the first half, while the Sparks' Michael Manglona delivered 10 first-half points to equal his effort. The Sparks re-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa striker, left, is guarded by a Shirley's Coffee Shop defender during their game in the NMIFA men's fall league last Thursday night at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Matansa won, 2-0.

Inter Godfather's, Matansa win debuts

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Only two teams broke into the win column at the opening week of the 2010 Men's Football Fall Cup.

In the first game of the season last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex, Inter Godfather's clobbered Independents, 11-1. The two other

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Roach: Pacquiao having worst-ever training camp

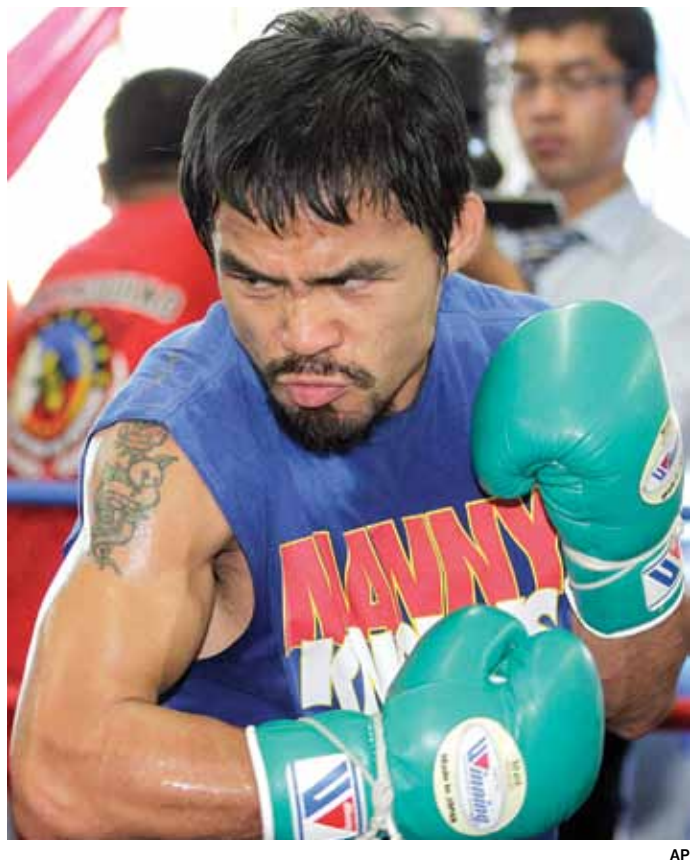
By GREG BEACHAM
AP SPORTS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Manny Pacquiao finally made his way past the autograph hounds and the process server to climb the rickety staircase to the Wild Card Gym, he was met by dozens of fans, fellow fighters, reporters and even a television star, all wanting a moment before his workout.

Hollywood is jam-packed with distractions for the world's top pound-for-pound boxer — and the Pacman isn't even a congressman in this country.

Trainer Freddie Roach says Pacquiao is having the worst training camp of his career heading into his Nov. 13 meeting with Antonio Margarito in Texas.

In the five months since he won a congressional seat in his native Philippines, boxing has lost some of its urgency for Pacquiao. Roach can even cite physical evidence their careers have been hurt by politics.



AP

Boxer Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines, trains for his upcoming boxing match with Antonio Margarito at the Wild Card Gym in Los Angeles, Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010.

"He has a foot problem, and that's because he wears dress shoes too much," Roach said, referring to the nagging left heel injury that has slowed Pacquiao's running.

Although Roach thinks he'll have no problem putting together a speed-based game plan to beat the bigger Margarito, he's worried about Pacquiao's ability to execute it. The fighter who flawlessly teamed with boxing's most respected trainer to forge a 12-fight winning streak just doesn't have the same focus, or even the same drive.

"At two in the morning, I'm walking around Baguio pulling my hair out, saying, 'What do I have to do?'" Roach said, referring to the Filipino city where they trained before returning to Los Angeles last weekend.

"I know his mind is off the fight. I know his mind is somewhere else, and that's because of politics. If there are no more challenges out there after this

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